

Fowler to axe rules limiting jobs for young



By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

Restrictions governing the working hours and conditions of young people are to be abolished in a fresh move to make it easier for those aged 16 to 18 to find work and more attractive for companies to employ them.

In legislation to be unveiled in the Queen's Speech today, the Government is to remove what it regards as petty and outdated restraints which prevent the 850,000 young people in the labour market being employed under the same terms as adults.

A whole raft of restrictions contained in about nine statutes and drawn up at the time when the school-leaving age was 14 are to be scrapped in the Employment Bill being introduced by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Employment. Labour last night issued a warning that the plans could

result in exploitation of the young by employers.

At present those aged 16 to 18 are subject to limitations which prevent them from:

- Starting work before 7 am or finishing after 8 pm.
- Working more than nine hours a day, or 10 with overtime. (In factories working five-day weeks the maximum is 10 hours a day or 10½ with overtime.)
- Working more than 48 hours in any week.

There are other restrictions on working on Sundays, Bank holidays and prescribed limits for work-breaks.

These are all to be swept away in the legislation, which is aimed at encouraging more flexibility within industry, extending employment opportunities for young people and simplifying the burdens on business.

Working terms and conditions for young people are to be made subject

to negotiation between themselves and their employer, although in companies where there are collective agreements they will be subject to the same terms.

The intention is to remove disruption to working patterns inside factories caused by restrictions which, for example, prevent the younger employees doing night shifts or require them to have breaks at different times from their working colleagues. In some firms young people have to start and finish and take their breaks at the same time even though they may be working on different production lines.

The measures are in line with the Government's new attack on youth unemployment. Since September young people refusing a job or a training place have lost their entitlement to benefit, but before those regulations came into effect it was estimated there were between

80,000 and 90,000 young people unemployed.

Of the 850,000 young people in the labour force about 600,000 are subject to the regulations governing working hours.

The Government's new moves were attacked last night by Mr Michael Meacher, the Labour spokesman on employment. He said that young people were not organized or experienced enough to challenge exploitation by unscrupulous employers.

Briffin had been experiencing an increase in workplace accidents, and a doubling of the accident rate for young people from 69.6 per 100,000 workers in 1984 to 149.4 per 100,000 workers in the first quarter of this year. The proposals marked a "return to Victorian working conditions".

The main features of the Queen's Speech are expected to be:

- Water privatization. A Bill to sell

off the water authorities and set up a National Rivers Authority to act as a pollution watchdog.

● Electricity privatization. A Bill to create two generating companies, a grid company and 12 area boards.

● Reform of Section 2 of the Official Secrets Act.

● Introduction of compulsory membership for football clubs.

● Reform of child care law.

● Prevention of Terrorism Bill to starve terrorist organizations of funds.

● Companies Bill to streamline investigation procedures for take-overs and mergers.

● A road traffic Bill to introduce "autoguide" electronic navigation.

● Tightening of rules for claiming unemployment benefit, requiring applicants to show they are actively seeking work.

● New capital controls system for local authorities and "ring-fencing" of housing revenue accounts.

Missing girl: French arrest

By Ronald Faux

North Wales police said last night that a man answering the description of David John Evans, wanted in connection with the disappearance of Anna Humphries, had been detained by French police in a town near Lyons.

The man was spending last night at the police station at Pont d'Ain, 40 miles north-east of Lyons, after being detained while hitchhiking near the town.

Police at Pont d'Ain said he was heading north on route nationale 75, towards Bourg-en-Bresse, when he was picked up at 5 pm yesterday. He did not resist arrest. The man, who apparently speaks no French, had said nothing since being held. A spokesman for the gendarmerie said he had a number of identifying papers, including Evans' passport.

Information that the man was being held came via Interpol who were brought into the investigation following reports that Evans had crossed the channel.

A warrant for the arrest of the 31-year-old unemployed farm worker was issued by Wrexham Magistrates last Friday. Officers from North Wales police, recently back from inquiries in France, are now likely to return to Bourg-en-Bresse.

Meanwhile the search for Anna resumed yesterday after it was called off on Sunday because of a heavy snow fall. Anna disappeared on November 8 on her way home from school. Evans is understood to have left his home five miles away at Bettisfield on the Welsh border the next day.

During the days of searching by police, soldiers, mountain rescue personnel and local people, one shoe, a pencil case and a pair of scissors belonging to Anna have been found in the 25 miles of countryside between her home at Penley and Much Wenlock.



David Evans: Hunted by police in two countries.

Minister agrees to meet only RCN over regrading

Clarke action could split nurses' unions

● Mr Kenneth Clarke was last night seen as trying to divide the nursing unions over the regrading dispute

● He agreed to a meeting with the Royal College of Nurses but refused discussions with the other two unions

● The leader of Cohse urged the RCN to boycott the meeting. He said it should put staff unity first

● One health authority suspended nurses working to grade and the dispute escalated elsewhere

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Secretary of State for Health, appeared last night to try to drive a wedge between the nursing unions by agreeing to a meeting with the Royal College of Nursing (RCN) but refusing to meet the other unions.

The move, on the eve of

a critical meeting today between the staff side of the nurses and midwives negotiating council, was condemned by the Confederation of Health Service Employees (Cohse) which accused Mr Clarke of "putting the skids under tomorrow's meeting".

It came as one health authority in the North-west suspended nurses working to grade and the all-out strike at

the West Cumberland Hospital, Whitehaven, Cumbria, continued to escalate.

Mr Clarke made clear that he had only agreed to meet the RCN because of the college's refusal to support industrial action during the dispute over clinical regrading.

In a letter to Mr Trevor Clay, general secretary of the RCN, Mr Clarke said: "This is in direct contrast to those other unions which have been implicitly condoning industrial action".

He noted that the RCN, unlike Cohse and the National Union of Public Employees (Nupe), had stuck to the terms of the agreement signed earlier this year. "They have also, very sensibly, made it clear to any of their members who are

not satisfied with their grading that they should use the proper appeals procedure."

Mr Clarke said later he had no intention of seeing Cohse or Nupe leaders while they refused to condemn the industrial action by their members.

Mr Hector Mackenzie, Cohse general secretary, advised the RCN to refuse the meeting with Mr Clarke to avoid being party to the Government's game of splitting the unions. "The RCN should put the unity of the staff side above attempts by ministers to provoke the situation and cause further confusion."

Relations between the RCN and the more militant Cohse and Nupe deteriorated rapidly last week as Mr Clay accused the other two of deliberately misleading nurses and fuelling the crisis. On Friday, the RCN council agreed to review relations with the two other unions and call for a separate meeting with Mr Clarke.

The RCN welcomed Mr Clarke's agreement. It said it would be seeking assurances that the appeals procedure would work effectively and quickly. The college is also keen to press Mr Clarke to agree to independent arbitration on the definition of supervision for nursing auxiliaries.

Judge blocks transfer of Onassis corpse

From Michael Llanos, Buenos Aires

The Argentinian judge who ordered the post-mortem examination into the death of Christina Onassis said yesterday the billionaire's body died of acute pulmonary oedema, in which blood enters the lungs.

But a second judge investigating the possibility that Miss Onassis may have taken prescription pills shortly before her death on Saturday ordered that her corpse remain in the country until further notice. His order com-

plicated plans by her ex-husband, M. Thierry Roussel, a French businessman, to accompany her coffin back to Greece tomorrow.

M. Roussel arrived here yesterday to prepare the flight to Athens and then to the Greek island of Skiros, where Miss Onassis will be buried.

M. Roussel, Miss Onassis's fourth and last husband, did not travel with the couple's



Cold comfort: Nurse Achla Patel on strike outside Charing Cross Hospital, London, yesterday.

Death on security exercise

By Howard Foster

The Home Secretary is to face questions in the House of Commons about the control of private security firms offering firearms training after the death of a former soldier in a shooting accident in Essex at the weekend.

Mr Derry Campbell, aged 35, was hit in the stomach by a bullet from a .38 Smith & Wesson revolver during a mock battle between terrorists and security guards at a training centre on a disused airfield in Great Saling, near Braintree.

The £100-a-day pistol-shooting course was run by the Delta Training Company on behalf of Dublin-based Interact Ltd. Essex police were last night seeking details of the Irish firm after initial inquiries failed to find it. Irish police and the Irish Security

Bush pledges swift action on deficit

From Michael Binyon, Washington

President-elect George Bush yesterday announced three new appointments to his cabinet, including the key job of budget director, and said he would move swiftly to re-assure the world that he would make reduction of the US deficit a top priority.

He also said he would not get into negotiations on arms control during his meeting next month with President Gorbachev, and insisted that all substantive talks with Moscow would have to wait until after he was sworn in as President on January 20.

As expected, Mr Bush named Mr Richard Darman, a highly-regarded former deputy Treasury Secretary, to what he called "perhaps the most difficult job" of director of the Office of Management and Budget. He said Mr Darman, considered the economic brains although an

abrasive personality, had an intimate knowledge of the federal Government, the ability to work with Congress and a larger strategic vision.

Mr Bush said he had named his economic team swiftly because he recognized the need to reassure jittery world markets. "I am determined to

get that budget deficit, down," he said. "There is a certain psychology out there where people need a certain reassurance. And I'm prepared to give that reassurance and to state to the American people and to the world: 'This is priority, and I am going to do my level best to cope with this problem in a way that keeps the economy going, keeps opportunity alive, and gets

Continued on page 24, col 2

Ashdown tells his MPs to start making news

By Martin Fletcher
Political Reporter

Mr Paddy Ashdown is to tell his Democrat MPs to brush up their act to lift their ailing party.

Some senior members of the parliamentary party have been barely in evidence in recent months. As one party official said yesterday, Sir Cyril Smith is the only Democrat MP who ever appears in the tabloid press. Letters have been sent to the editors of programmes such as the BBC's *Any Questions?* and *Question Time* asking why Democrats are invited so rarely to appear.

Mr Ashdown wants his MPs to comment speedily, publicly and sensibly on the unfolding stories of the moment, to get themselves on radio and television programmes, and to cultivate newspaper

journalists. His aides acknowledge that the party cannot rise in the polls till it gets more media coverage, yet will not get more coverage unless it rises in the polls.

They also admit that without more media coverage the party will not be able to overcome continuing identity problems caused by confusion over its name.

Mr Ashdown was at first despondent that his election as leader, a successful party conference in September, and his own national tour earlier this month have failed to lift the party's ratings from 7 or 8 per cent.

But according to aides that despondency has now turned to anger at the lack of coverage as he has seen the Government and Labour steal the Democrats' thunder on the green and

European issues on which the Liberals had campaigned for years.

The final straw was the dispute over the Chancellor's lobby briefing. Mr Ashdown had received no national coverage when he had said at Govan two days earlier that pensioners were threatened by this Government.

There is outspoken criticism of some senior Democrat MPs who have not been pulling their weight, and anger at own goals such as the failure of three Democrat MPs to appear for the critical vote at the end of the recent debate on Government plans to charge for eye tests and dental check-ups.

Mr Ashdown is relying heavily on a good result in the forthcoming Richmond by-election to trigger a revival in the party's fortunes.

INSIDE

● Music-lovers have the chance to win the £1,100, 20-volume *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, plus five music-filled days in New York, in a competition beginning today on page 18

WIN £12,000

● There was one winner of yesterday's £4,000 daily prize (see page 3), so the Portfolio Accumulator stands at £12,000. Prices: page 29

Sale of Mates

Royalties from future sales and the £1 million raised by the disposal of Mates. Mr Richard Branson's condom business, to Pacific Dunlop, which manufactures the product, will go to the Healthcare Foundation, the charitable trust. Page 25

Living history

Museums Year 1989, launched yesterday by Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, at the Victoria and Albert in London, and sponsored by *The Times*, will involve more than 2,000 museums likely to attract a total of 100 million visits. Page 6

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NEWS ROUNDUP

More libel wins for Koo Stark

Koo Stark, the actress and photographer, won three more libel actions in the High Court yesterday, taking to seven the number of successful actions brought by her. Miss Stark, aged 32, a former friend of Prince Andrew, won a £300,000 victory over the *Sunday People* earlier this month.

She was not in court yesterday, when she is thought to have collected about £150,000. She won "substantial" undisclosed damages from the *Daily Mirror* over allegations of "frolicking" in the surf with Mr Peter Holm, Joan Collins' former husband, on a Mediterranean holiday. The newspaper made a public retraction and apology and agreed to pay the damages and all legal costs.

Similar allegations in *The Sun* on the same day won Miss Stark her second substantial damages win. Miss Mary Picton-Turberville, for *The Sun*, acknowledged that the imputations were untrue. She also apologized for "offensive and untrue" suggestions in the *News of the World* in December 1986, under the headline, *Peck-a-Koo*. That won Miss Stark her third big award of the day.

CND's double quest

The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament is sending simultaneous fact-finding teams to Washington and to Moscow this week to discuss further disarmament proposals with politicians and opinion-formers after the US presidential election. Mrs Joan Ruddock, former chairman of CND and now chairman of the Parliamentary CND Group, will travel with the Moscow group as an adviser. The Washington group will be led by Miss Marjorie Thompson, CND vice-chairman.

£2m drugs campaign

A £2 million "killer in the blood" campaign against drug abuse was launched yesterday by Mrs Edwina Currie, Under Secretary of State for Health, with a warning that a single illicit injection could be fatal. The campaign aims to deter young people from experimenting with heroin and amphetamines and from sharing needles which could increase the spread of Aids, hepatitis and other diseases. The television, poster and advertisement campaign says: "Shooting up once can screw you up forever".

Church TV dismay

The Church of England yesterday reacted with "dismay" to an announcement by Thames TV that it is to end its religious broadcasting and called on the company's chief executive to reverse the decision. Thames is to end its weekly religious magazine programme, *Currents*, in March and switch from making documentaries of religious and social concern to studio productions about social problems. The Bishop of St Albans, the Rt Rev John Taylor, chairman of the Church of England communications committee, said Thames had produced excellent religious programmes.

RUC man shot dead

An RUC officer was shot dead and another wounded at Castlederg in County Tyrone last night. The two policemen were on duty at a security barrier in the centre of the town when a gunman opened fire from the back of a motorcycle. Castlederg, only a few miles from the border with the Irish Republic, has been bombed several times by the IRA.

Glyndebourne blow

Glyndebourne has lost its general administrator to the Canadian Opera Company. Mr Brian Dickie, who joined Glyndebourne in 1962 and took over his present role in 1981, has been released from his contract to become general director of the Toronto-based company in January.

Court test over IRA deaths inquest

By Jamie Dettmer
Irish Affairs Correspondent

A legal challenge to what evidence can be heard at the inquest into the deaths of three unarmed IRA men, shot by an undercover police unit six years ago, was mounted yesterday in the Belfast High Court.

The family of Gervaise McKerr, one of the IRA men, asked a High Court judge to overturn the coroner's ruling that the three policemen involved in the shootings be allowed to submit statements to the hearing, rather than give evidence in person.

In his submission, Mr Reginald Weir, QC, told the court that the three officers did not need to fear that their evidence could incriminate them, as the Attorney-General had indicated in the Commons that there would be no further prosecutions arising from the

shootings on November 11, 1982, of Gervaise McKerr, Sean Burns and Eugene Toman, during a car chase outside Lurgan. Their deaths are at the centre of persistent allegations about a Royal Ulster Constabulary "shoot-to-kill" policy.

However, Mr David Hunter, QC, the coroner's counsel, told the court that the RUC officers, members of an elite anti-terrorist squad, could still face murder charges on two of the killings. The three officers were acquitted in 1984 of murdering Eugene Toman but it would now appear that they could be charged for the deaths of McKerr and Burns.

Mr Hunter told Mr Justice Carswell that the Attorney-General had not ruled out further prosecutions against the officers if new evidence emerged. He said that the officers could still furnish evidence against themselves if

they testified at the inquest at Craigavon, Co Antrim, and that they were within the rules governing Northern Ireland inquests to refuse to appear in person.

Lawyers representing the widow of Gervaise McKerr claim that reading the unsworn statements of the officers to the jury at the inquest would breach coroners' rules and would be contrary to natural justice. They also argue that the handling of the case by the coroner, Mr James Elliott, has "seriously prejudiced" the hearing and they are calling for a fresh inquest.

If the McKerr lawyers are successful in their High Court action, the future conduct of all Northern Ireland inquests could be affected. Inquests that have already taken place could also be challenged in the courts.

The rules on the conduct of inquests in the province are different

from those in the rest of the United Kingdom, where witnesses can be compelled to give evidence. Rule 9 of the Northern Ireland stipulations states that a statement can be read in the absence of a witness. Lawyers for the McKerr family argue that rule 9 is contrary to common law and they are prepared to take the case to the Lords and the European Court of Human Rights.

McKerr, Burns and Toman, all known IRA men, were killed by members of the Headquarters Mobile Support Unit in a hail of 109 bullets. Their deaths were followed a few weeks later by the shootings of three other men by officers from the same anti-terrorist force.

The High Court hearing continues today. The Craigavon inquest is likely to remain adjourned until the action is completed.

Nurses' action may be illegal

Health authorities would be almost certain to obtain a temporary injunction if they resorted to legal action to stop nurses working to grade, according to an industrial relations expert yesterday.

Mr Bob Simpson, senior lecturer at the London School of Economics, said courts tended to grant injunctions in such cases on the basis of the "balance of convenience".

"The issue was not whether a 'work to grade' was industrial action," he said. "Industrial action is not a legal term; it is not defined in statute."

The issue was whether the work to grade amounted to a breach of the nurses' contracts of employment.

"As I understand it, they have not been given new contracts, they have just been regraded. So the question is, what were their obligations in the first place?"

"There is an argument, that might be used by their employers, that if they had an undertaking to carry out certain duties under their original contracts, then this is not affected by regrading."

On the other side, however, the nurses who are dissatisfied might say that their lower grades relate to less responsibility and that if they do not have that responsibility they are not prepared to undertake the work.

Whatever the wording of the contract, Mr Simpson said if the dispute came to court a Court of Appeal ruling was bound to be cited that the nurses had an overriding "duty of co-operation" towards their employers.

That went back to the railwaymen's work to rule dispute in 1972, he said.

The court had seemed to hold that whatever the details of an employee's contract, he or she had an obligation to co-operate with an employer's enterprise.

"This has not been properly tested since that case", Mr Simpson said.

In the context of the health industry it might be said that the aim was to give patients such treatment as was necessary. Any action done in such a way which was held to disrupt that purpose could be deemed to be in breach of this overriding obligation to co-operate.

Crime drops after pubs extend hours

By Robin Oakley, Political Editor

The extension of public house opening hours, introduced in August, appears to have produced a reduction in drink-related crime.

One main result has been an increase in tea and coffee sales in public houses. Britain's total alcohol consumption has apparently not increased in the past decade.

Since August 22, the Licensing Act 1988 has allowed public houses and clubs to serve alcohol from 11 am to 11 pm Monday to Saturday, with an additional hour on Sundays between noon and 3 pm.

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, yesterday told the British Institute of Innkeeping that it would be some time before the Government could be sure about the effects of the extension of licensing hours but the first signs were favourable.

He said that an early survey by the Brewers' Society had shown that one significant result had been an increase in the sales of tea and coffee in public houses.

He went on: "Just recently the police in one of the toughest parts of London found that arrests for

drunkenness dropped by 25 per cent from 201 to 149 in the four weeks after the longer hours came in, while criminal offences committed after the pubs closed fell by 30 per cent from 141 to 106".

He added: "So far, so good". The Home Office feels that there are "reassuring indications" that those who had doubts about the relaxation of opening hours might have been too pessimistic.

The Government had asked the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys to study drinking patterns in Britain so that they could measure the effect of the new laws next year.

Mr Hurd said yesterday that indications from the survey of drinking in Britain last year were that the total consumption of alcohol has not increased since 1978.

The Home Secretary said that his chief concern was with the link between "stupid drinking" and crime.

Mr Hurd said the Government wanted to turn public houses into places where whole families could go at different hours to consume different kinds of food and drink.

Cocaine was hidden in LPs

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Reporter



One of the long-playing records used to smuggle cocaine.

Five drug smugglers were convicted at a London court yesterday in the wake of one of the most ingenious attempts to transport cocaine ever seen by Customs investigators.

The thin layers of Colombian cocaine were discovered sandwiched between the vinyl layers of long-playing records. The five defendants — four Colombian women working as couriers and a Spanish escort — were found guilty at Isleworth Crown Court yesterday of smuggling 16 kilos of cocaine after being caught last November at Heathrow.

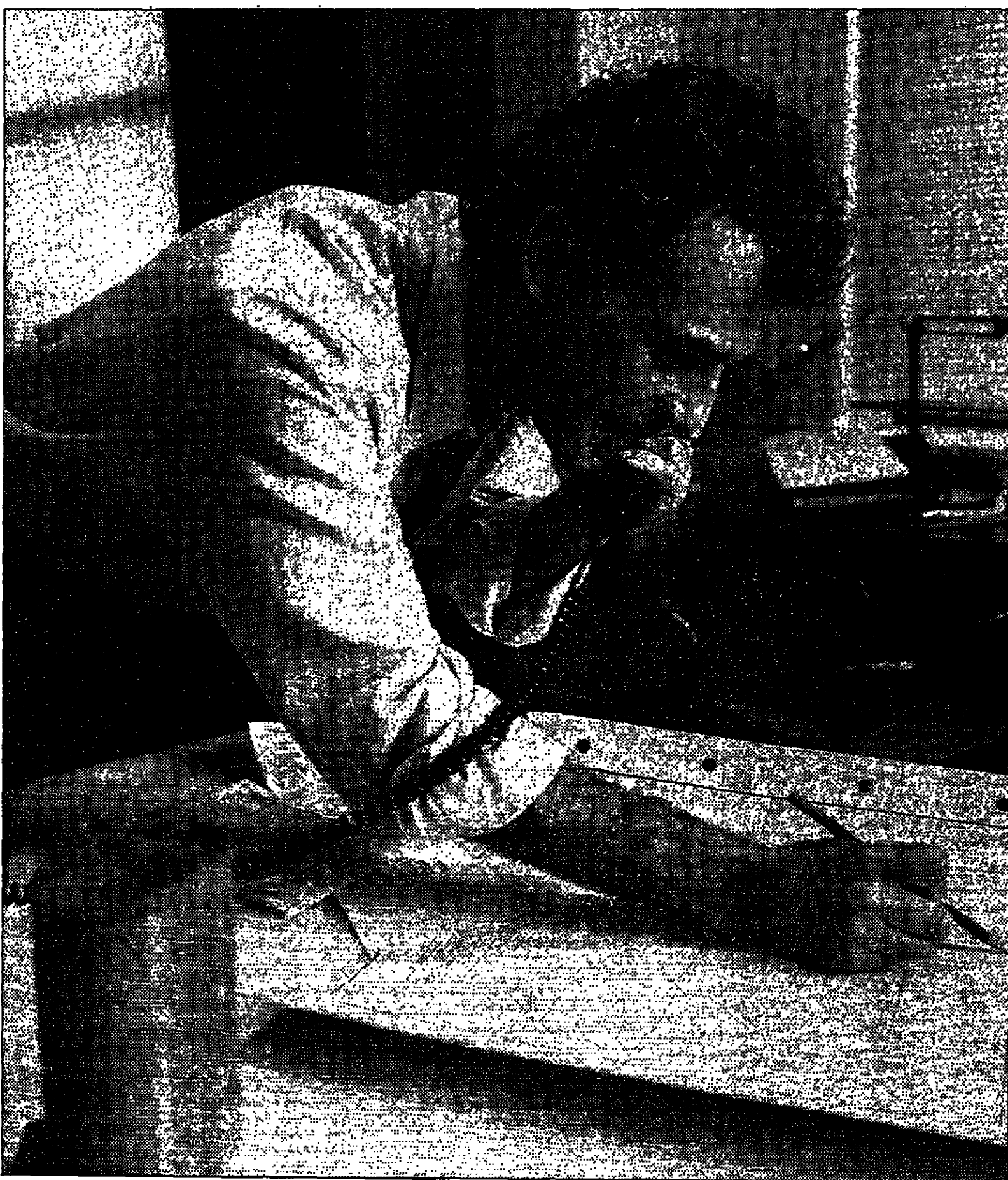
Luis Alberto Restrepo Rozko, aged 29; Maria Gonzalez de Arango, aged 37; Victoria Reyes-Alciade, aged 28; Libia Escobar de Ayala, aged 34, and Maria Medina Loaza, will be sentenced today.

Customs officers arrested the five whom they thought were acting suspiciously after arriving on a flight from Bogota.

They were held while their luggage was searched. Twenty long-playing records, six children's books and three cardboard files were found in each one's case. They contained 16 kilos of cocaine worth at least £2.6 million.

Customs and Excise said the cocaine was concealed by splitting open the records and sandwiching the drug in between and holding out the covers of the books. "It is the first time we have ever come across records like this. We were astonished."

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Paper boy murder appeal is told of another suspect

By Michael Hornsall

A man jailed for another murder was named in the High Court as a suspect in the killing of Carl Bridgewater when three men yesterday began their appeal against conviction for the shooting of the newspaper delivery boy in 1978.

The court was told that Hubert Spencer, an ambulance man, who was later given a life sentence for shooting dead an elderly friend who farmed next door to Yew Tree Cottage, Wordsley, West Midlands, where Carl was murdered, was initially suspected by police.

He was dropped from the inquiry a month later as detectives moved in on the gang eventually convicted of killing the boy, aged 13.

Carl, who stumbled across an antique robbery at the farm while delivering newspapers, paid for his intrusion with his life.

The Court of Appeal judges were told that Spencer was sentenced to life imprisonment for the other murder 12 months after Carl's death and that he knew the young boy personally.

An injustice had been done to the three appellants, Mr Benet Hytner, QC, said when he opened the appeal.

He said James Robinson, now aged 54, and Michael Hickey, aged 26, and his cousin Vincent Hickey, aged 34, were victims of imperfections in investigative, judicial and prison system processes that had led to injustice.

The new appeals were ordered by Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, last year. The three men were sentenced by Mr Justice Drake at Staf-

ford Crown Court on November 12, 1979, for the murder of Carl Bridgewater, of Ascot Gardens, Wordsley, on September 19 the previous year, and for aggravated burglary.

Robinson and Vincent Hickey were sentenced to life imprisonment with the recommendation that they serve 25 years. Michael Hickey was ordered to be detained during Her Majesty's pleasure as he was then only 17 but he has since been transferred to Park Lane special mental hospital, Liverpool. A fourth man, Patrick Molloy, then aged 51, who received a 12-year sentence for manslaughter, died in prison.

Mr Hytner told Lord Justice Russell, Mr Justice Leonard and Mr Justice Potts that three police inquiries had been held into the case and that the appellants had been previously refused leave to appeal against their convictions.

There was "monumental detail" in the case and permission would be sought to call fresh evidence to show that the convictions were unsafe and unsatisfactory.

The murder of the "popular and likeable" schoolboy had sent a "thrill of horror" throughout the nation which was shared by the police who were under pressure to bring the miscreants to justice.

Mr Hytner said far more information on the case was available to counsel in the appeal than had been available to lawyers at the trial.

He described how Hubert Spencer, of Kingsley Road, Kingswinford, West Midlands, had been the target of

initial police suspicion.

Police had evidence of a man in a blue car and in uniform being seen near the scene of Carl's murder. Spencer was interested in antiques, had visited Yew Tree Farm before and also knew Carl, who was a friend of his daughter.

But by the end of the following month there had been a shotgun robbery at Romsley, Hereford and Worcester, and Vincent Hickey and his co-accused had been picked up.

"Spencer was dropped from the inquiry. Another man was in the frame and all police inquiries were concentrated on the new line of inquiry."

The Hickeys, Robinson and Molloy all seemed to live in a sub-culture of crime and drink centred on the Dog and Partridge public house in the Birmingham suburb of Selly Oak, he said.

Vincent Hickey had made veiled remarks about Yew Tree Farm during his interrogation and pointed out Robinson's home to the police. Michael Hickey made no admissions, despite intensive questioning. His mother, Mrs Anne Whelan, is at the forefront of the campaign to free the three.

Lawyers for the appellants yesterday survived what could have been a stumbling block to their success when Lord Justice Russell said the court would accept the full text of police interviews with the accused men although the jury at Stafford was not given the complete record.

The hearing, expected to last into the new year, continues today.

Ready for the school's big night

ADRIAN BROOKS



Lucy Shaw, aged 15, from the Latymer School Chamber Orchestra in Edmonton, north London, rehearsing for last night's Schools Prom - the first of three - at the Albert Hall. By tomorrow, 1,500 children will have performed.

Body seen in lake could be Donald Campbell

By Ronald Faux

Divers will resume the search of Coniston Water in Cumbria today for a headless body police believe could be that of Donald Campbell, who was killed attempting to set a new world water speed record on the lake 22 years ago.

He died when his speedboat Bluebird went out of control at 320 mph. Wreckage and a mascot bear were all that was found. When the possibility was raised that Campbell's body had been discov-

ered by amateur skin divers, his first wife, Daphne Shaw, said believed the remains should be left where they were.

Campbell's daughter Gina believes, however, that her father should be given a funeral. Speaking in Australia, where she is promoting her new book about the Campbells, she said: "He has been dead for a long time but that doesn't mean to say that the memory has gone away."

Two scuba divers exploring the bed of Coniston Water came across the remains

on Sunday. Mr Barry Graham, aged 45, of Skipton, yesterday led the police divers into the lake and to the place where he and Mr Stephen Ward, of Grassington, had found the headless remains lying in silt in 100 ft of water.

Forensic specialists had said the remains could be those of Donald Campbell even after 20 years. The depth of the water and the consistently low temperature of the lake bed could mean that a body would be preserved.

Satellite TV rocket positioned for launch

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

The countdown to Britain's satellite television revolution began yesterday when a 180ft rocket was rolled to its launch pad at a remote clearing in the South American jungle.

The \$50 million (£27.7 million) Ariane 4 spacecraft, which will blast off from Kourou in French Guiana in 17 days, will position the 16-channel Astra satellite 22,000 miles above the Earth.

If all goes according to plan, direct-to-home satellite television will be available in British homes from February 1. At least nine of the channels picked up on a 60cm dish will be broadcasting programmes in English.

The first all-important step in the run-up to the television revolution took place yesterday morning in sweltering heat a few hundred miles north of the Equator, at the Ariane Space Centre in Kourou.

At midnight British time on December 9, Ariane Flight 402 will blast off. After just 22 minutes the spacecraft will have completed the first stage of its journey and be in orbit around the globe.

For four and a half crucial days, tracking stations at New Jersey, United States, Guam in the Indian Ocean, and Betzdorf in Luxembourg will monitor the payload during its "transfer orbit".

Key data will be collected by the Astro Spacecraft Operations Centre, at General Electric's headquarters in New Jersey, before the decision is taken to fire a kick-motor which will position the television satellite 22,000 miles above Zaire.

As it orbits the Earth, the module will be kept in position inside a 70km-square "box" by Astra's control centre in Luxembourg.

Judge condemns 'inadequate' sentence

Child death case pair jailed

By David Sapsted

A judge last night condemned as "wholly inadequate" the maximum prison sentence of two years that he could impose on a young mother and her lover for cruelty towards a girl aged three who died after a savage beating.

Sarah Worthington was bruised so extensively that the hospital could not tell what race she was when she was admitted. She died a year ago after a blow to her stomach was so severe that her internal organs ruptured against her spine. Winchester Crown Court was told.

Stephen Thorpe, aged 23, and Sarah's mother, Michelle Worthington, aged 22, were found guilty of cruelty towards the child. Thorpe was also found guilty of cruelty towards the girl's half-brother Andrew, aged one, but was cleared by the jury of both murder and manslaughter at the end of the 14-day trial.

Mr Justice Swinton Thomas said: "It has not been possible to bring home responsibility for Sarah's death to either of you. However, I am satisfied that over a period of weeks the child was battered by each of you. It was in the course of

that conduct that the blow was struck which caused her death. "Parliament has provided that the maximum penalty for cruelty to children under 16 is two years imprisonment. It is abundantly clear in this case that that punishment is wholly inadequate."

He sentenced Thorpe and Worthington to two years imprisonment each for cruelty to Sarah and sentenced Thorpe to a further 12 months for cruelty to Andrew.

The judge said the judiciary and the Court of Appeal had already expressed similar views on the inadequacy of the available sentence.

When the court was shown pictures of the girl, who was admitted to hospital with a fracture to the side of her head and 61 bruises, several of the nine women on the jury wept.

During the trial the judge directed that Worthington be acquitted of murder.

Thorpe and Worthington, who denied all charges, were living at Clanfield, Southampton, when Sarah died.

They met after Thorpe had been released from prison last July after serving a sentence for causing actual bodily

harm. It was while they lived in Southsea that Sarah returned to her mother after spending a summer holiday with her great-grandmother in Falmouth, Devon. The court was told that within days Sarah started becoming withdrawn and showed signs of bruising.

Thorpe and Worthington had said: "She is a clumsy kid. She is always falling and bumping into things."

Shortly before the family moved to Clanfield, Sarah was taken to a doctor who was told by Worthington that she had blackened her eye by falling against bath taps. The following day she was seen to have black eyes and bruises.

During the next seven days the bruises multiplied. They included four bruises on her stomach the size of a man's knuckles. On the day she died she complained of stomach ache and, when she encountered breathing difficulties, an ambulance was called.

She died six minutes after being admitted to hospital.

The couple said the injuries had been caused by falls in the bath or by tripping over toys.

Winner celebrates



Lord King of Warrnaby, the chairman of British Airways, yesterday presented Mrs Ann Thornton with a cheque for £290,000, the biggest prize to date in The Times Portfolio Accumulator competition.

Mrs Thornton, from Wood-green in the New Forest, said she should not really have been checking her Portfolio card on the morning she won. "I was supposed to be pouring the coffee at a Conservative coffee morning, but I had fallen and broken my ankle, so I was at home", she said.

Mrs Thornton and her husband, Christopher, found plenty to talk about with Lord King over a celebratory glass of champagne. Mrs Thornton intends to use part of her winnings to finance her grandsons' education and Lord King offered advice about the best

Portfolio
PLUS
Accumulator

way of making the arrangements.

Mr Thornton is a retired farmer and, like Lord King, a keen amateur artist. Lord King farms in Leicestershire, so he and the Thorntons discussed farming policy.

After the presentation, Mr and Mrs Thornton were entertained at lunch at the Ritz by representatives of The Times.

Mr Peter Stephenson, a mathematics teacher from Gosforth, Northumberland, was the sole winner of yesterday's £4,000 daily Portfolio prize.

Children 'tortured brother'

Three children took part in the systematic torture of a boy aged eight which ended with his death, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr Stephen Coward, QC, for the prosecution, told Birmingham Crown Court that the boy's father and step-mother had been concerned about the boy's habit of self-abuse.

"They began by telling the boy that what he was doing was wrong, but that did not seem to work", Mr Coward told the jury.

"The mother and father were determined that he should stop, and they then began a campaign to cure him."

"He was tortured, and the three eldest children in the family, a girl of 14, and boys of 13 and 11, played their part in the violence."

Mr Coward said the boy had been taken to Dudley Road Hospital, Birmingham, on February 11 this year.

Doctors found he was suffering from fractures of the leg and elbow, numerous bruises on his body and face, bleeding in the skull and burns across his chest, pelvis, back and legs. He died in hospital.

Mr Justice Kennedy ordered that the family could not be named.

The father, aged 34, and step-mother, aged 25, deny murder and charges of cruelty and causing injury. All three children deny maliciously causing grievous bodily harm. The hearing continues today.



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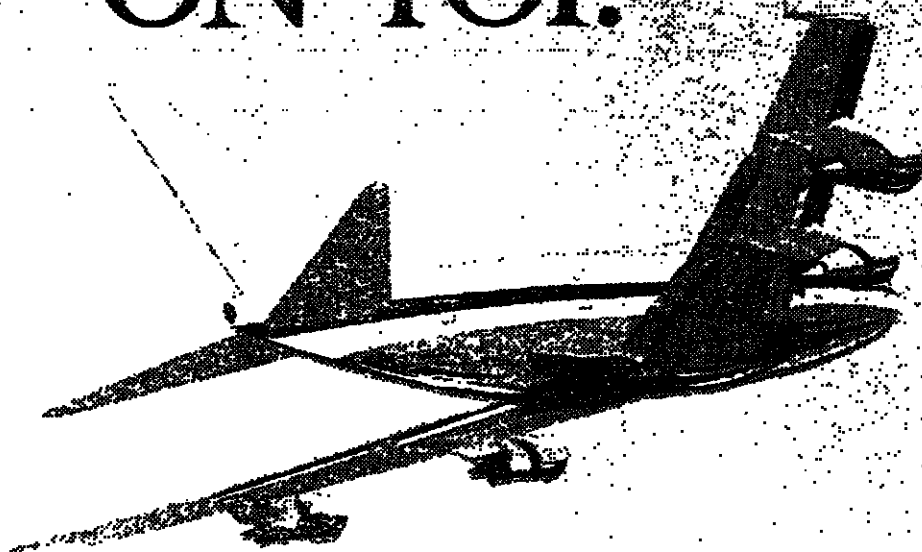
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Three-quarters of people over the age of 65 fear that they will have financial difficulties in old age and nearly half think that more part-time work should be available, according to a Gallup survey published yesterday.

The survey also shows that 55 per cent of the elderly are concerned that the National Health Service will not spend enough "keeping older people fit and healthy," and 41 per cent feel that families will have to make a greater contribution to caring for elderly people.

The results were presented at a symposium organized by Help the Aged and the MSD Foundation, an independent charitable trust committed to raising the quality of primary medical care.

They show clearly that elderly people are determined to remain physically and financially independent as long as possible. The call for part-time work was common to all pensioners and included 43 per cent of those aged over 75.

When asked whether they would like to see more services for the elderly, or more financial support, more than half opted for financial support, with 28 per cent calling for more services.

When they became too ill to be able to look after themselves, four in five respondents said they should have the opportunity of being cared for in their own home instead

Staff limits 'hinder tax fraud fight'

By David Walker

An Inland Revenue initiative to seek out "ghosts" and "moonlighters" evading income tax at the heart of the black economy is 25 per cent under strength, according to official figures obtained by the Inland Revenue Staff Federation.

As a result large sums of tax are going uncollected, especially in the South-east where recruitment to tax offices is most difficult.

The figures match shortfalls of up to 13 per cent in the Inland Revenue's special offices and its inquiry branch, which focus on fraud and persistent non-compliance by companies.

Some tax officials now question whether the inquiry branch has the manpower to mount investigations of the scope which led a year ago to the successful prosecution of Lester Piggott.

The Inland Revenue Staff Federation said about the latest figures: "Tax evaders in the South-east are now getting away with murder."

"It is beginning to look like a deliberate policy of the Government not to tax the most prosperous part of the country."

Badges and medals should be awarded to children who help in the community and behave as good citizens, according to a group headed by Mr Bernard Weatherill, Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Commission on Citizenship said at its launch yesterday that it would also consider whether children should be able to take GCSE courses in active citizenship.

Ms Elisabeth Hoodless, deputy chairman, said: "We are anxious to find a way in which volunteers who help the community are recognized. Eastern European countries award silver and gold badges to people who serve the community. In Britain, donors who give blood over a long period

Top IRA man seized before flight to US

Irish Special Branch detectives yesterday arrested Gerard Sloan, one of the IRA's most experienced gunmen, who escaped in a shoot-out seven years ago from Belfast's Crumlin Road prison.

He was arrested at Dublin airport just before boarding a flight to the United States.

Sloan, aged 35, was a member of a republican gang which used M60 machine guns to kill an SAS officer and a policeman. He was high on the Royal Ulster Constabulary's wanted list.

He was the last of the eight men who shot their way out of the prison in June 1981 to be at large. Six were arrested in the Irish Republic soon after the break-out.

The seventh, Joe Doherty, is fighting a British extradition request in the US and seeking political asylum there.

Survey highlights fears over health care and incomes

Three pensioners in four prey to financial worries

By Jill Sherman, Social Services Correspondent

Living longer: what it may mean

What people have said about generally living longer and the rise in the number of elderly. Which if any of them do you agree with?

	Total	65-74	75+
Elderly people will have a problem of shortage of income	74	77	69
The NHS will not put enough resources into keeping older people fit and healthy	55	57	50
Respect of the elderly will be less	48	52	43
More need for part-time work	45	47	43
Families will have to make a greater contribution to care for elderly people	41	40	43
Elderly people will not be well catered for in terms of activities and entertainment	30	31	26

of a hospital. Those that needed services wanted better public transport to GPs' and hospital clinics and more help in the home.

Professor Alan Maynard, from the Centre of Health Economics, York University, called for a flexible retirement age so that those who wanted to could continue working in their mid and late 70s, with pensions given to those in greater need.

"Perhaps older people should work beyond 60 or 65 with pensions paid later rather than earlier, and targeted on those whose need for physical, psychological and social support is such that in kind and in cash, support is efficient."

Most of the population were in good health in their seventies and part-time work could be a very effective way of keeping them healthy and integrated in the community.

The survey showed that 29 per cent of single people over 65, and 47 per cent of those widowed and divorced, felt

that old age was synonymous with loneliness.

It also showed widespread difference between the social classes, both in needs and perception of health. Thirty-five per cent of those in professional and managerial groups thought they were in very good health compared to 22 per cent from the working class group. About 37 per cent of Conservative voters claimed to be in "very good health" compared to 20 per cent of Labour voters, and 32 per cent of SLD voters.

The number of elderly people over 75 is expected to grow by 42 per cent between 1981 and 2001, with the numbers of those over 85 doubling in the same period.

The Government and health policy analysts are struggling to work out how to maintain financial and service support to cope with the increases.

Mrs Julia Cumberlege, chairman of South-west Thames health authority, also

speaking at the symposium, suggested that elderly people should become much more involved in looking after each other, with the more healthy caring for those that are ill.

She supported the idea of "grey co-operatives", now being piloted by Bristol University, where retired people run groups funded by the state to have the number of people ending up prematurely in care homes.

British pensioners are more likely to die from the winter cold than elderly people in Europe, according to a report published yesterday.

Winter Action on Cold Homes, a consortium of voluntary organizations including Age Concern and Help the Aged, says the Government must take a lead on housing, heating and insulation to prevent thousands of pensioners dying of hypothermia.

"Why is it that Britain's pensioners are the coldest in Europe and more likely to die in winter?" Mr Malcolm Wicks, the consortium chairman, said yesterday.

"It is not because Britain is the coldest European country - Scandinavia is far colder. Yet cold-related deaths there are virtually unheard of. In Britain there are 30,000 or more extra winter deaths."

"European pensioners are less likely to die because they live in warm, well-insulated homes and are more likely to have decent pensions."

Private security firms

Demands for tighter control

By Peter Evans and Stewart Tessler

Fresh calls for tighter controls over the expanding private security industry and the specialist area of VIP protection are likely to emerge after the shooting of a former soldier at Essex at the weekend.

Critics point to the spread of security companies which have little experience, may have links to criminality and operate close to the edge of the law. Earlier this year, there were calls from chief constables and union leaders for more controls after a police report showed there were 600 companies viewed with suspicion by the police.

The report, based on a confidential questionnaire sent to chief constables, showed that more than 300 employees had criminal records. One company was thought to have links to the Mafia. Others were thought to have been set up by criminals.

Security guards are employed to patrol big department stores, shops, shopping malls and private blocks of flats and housing estates. As the police have become increasingly more stretched, the companies have moved in to provide cover.

No police force has the manpower to guard nervous executives or minor Middle

East princes. Scotland Yard's Special Branch and diplomatic protection staff are committed heavily to recognized targets.

The gap has been filled by a network of often small, usually discreet companies based on ex-SAS or Royal Marine personnel. They may teach the rudiments of their trade to others, such as company chauffeurs who are taught offensive and defensive driving, or provide protection, sometimes armed.

Mr Tony Sinn, managing editor of *International Security Review*, said: "Firearms training for VIP protection is an essential fact of life today when terrorists and criminals don't hesitate to use whatever firearms are available to them."

"While training has to be as realistic as possible, every precaution is taken. Training is an ongoing thing. I would have thought every week."

Mr Peter Harris, managing director of Redman Associates, which specializes in VIP security, said: "The most basic thing is to instill in the operative a sense of awareness and suspicion. Without that, no matter how well they are trained, they will ultimately fail."

Operatives are taught un-

armed combat and how to defend themselves and their charges without weapons. It would be illegal to use a weapon in Britain, Mr Harris said.

Bona fide applicants who carry guns abroad can get training from Redman Associates on how to handle a weapon safely and effectively, he said. "Target facilities are available within the UK." They were designed to reproduce normal situations and an every-day environment using electronic effects.

Such a facility could include a mock-up of a house or office. "Whether live bullets are used depends on individual instructors and circumstances," he said. However, training was designed to avoid the need to draw weapons.

Instructors were generally ex-Servicemen who had specialized in close protection and training. "They would also know how to use a gun. It is not necessarily true in our case that they have been members of the SBS or SAS."

Mr Harris said Redman Associates would not take training groups of less than four people. They could expect to pay about £1,200 for a week's course in VIP protection techniques.

Children may get good citizen medals

By David Tytler, Education Editor

Badges and medals should be awarded to children who help in the community and behave as good citizens, according to a group headed by Mr Bernard Weatherill, Speaker of the House of Commons.

The Commission on Citizenship said at its launch yesterday that it would also consider whether children should be able to take GCSE courses in active citizenship.

Ms Elisabeth Hoodless, deputy chairman, said: "We are anxious to find a way in which volunteers who help the community are recognized. Eastern European countries award silver and gold badges to people who serve the community. In Britain, donors who give blood over a long period

of years are given badges which they wear with pride."

"In recognition of their achievements, captains of industry get peerages, Members of Parliament get knight-hoods, the staff of MacDonalds get stars, Civil Servants get gongs. Volunteers get nothing. It is time they did."

The commission was set up by Community Service Volunteers, in conjunction with the Gulbenkian Foundation, and sponsored by Esso.

The idea of active citizenship has been espoused by Mrs Margaret Thatcher and Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education. Mr Weatherill, who will act as patron of the commission, told a meeting at the House of Com-

mons that one of the reasons he could not take a more active role was that there was likely to be political controversy on the precise definition of active citizenship.

Mr Maurice Stonefrost, chief executive of the British Railways Pensions Trust, who is chairman of the commission, said: "Our first task is to define citizenship. We will then consider ways of acknowledging voluntary work and decide whether we should encourage a form of accreditation. But we are aware of the dangers of over-defining and institutionalizing citizenship."

The commission, which is expected to report within a year, is under pressure to recommend a GCSE in active

citizenship, taking its academic requirements from examinations set in community and social studies. Mrs Hoodless said: "We shall not be introducing an examination on public morality but we will be considering whether GCSE is a suitable way of recognizing voluntary work."

Staff and sixth formers at King Edward's School, near Godalming, Surrey, have set up their own bank in a joint venture with the Midland.

The bank will have nearly 300 accounts for pupils and staff, offering services such as cheques, paying bills and issuing foreign currency and travellers' cheques. However, it will not provide loans or overdrafts.

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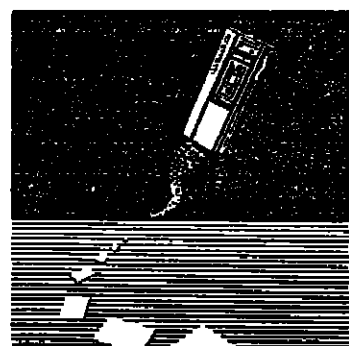
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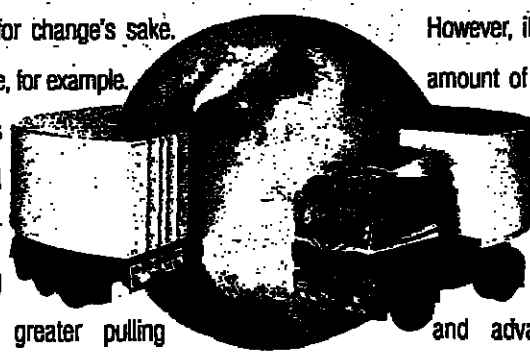
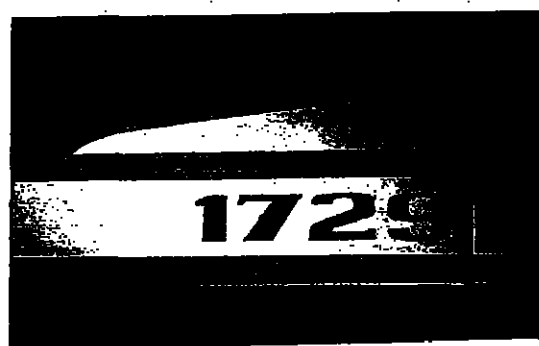
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Prison chief affirms belief in system of help and humanity

A long and sometimes bitter argument about the purpose of the prison system has been resolved with a letter to all members of the prison service from Mr Christopher Train, its director general.

The most controversial fact at issue has been whether it is any use trying to carry out Rule 1, the philosophy behind the prison system. That rule stipulates that the purpose of the training and treatment of convicted prisoners shall be to encourage and assist them to lead a good and useful life.

The new statement of aims comes down firmly in favour of "doing all we can to help them lead law-abiding and useful lives", the most important affirmation of belief in the system since prison officers first complained through their association in 1963 about the need for a renewed sense of purpose.

Diminishing faith in the ability of prisons to reform, encouraged by academic research, led instead to the idea that prisons could do no more than aim for what might, with more resources, be attainable — humane containment.

Prison officers have, however, long complained about a lack of moral purpose to

Without an adequate sense of purpose, jails have been plunged into conflict and crisis. Now prison staff have been given a clear set of aims after years of confusion and self-doubt about their role. Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent, assesses the implications.

imprisonment, which is as important for them, too. Erosion of it has not only diminished a sense of vocation in favour of militancy but contributed to a feeling of hopelessness and low morale in the service.

With that vacuum has come a sense of expectation and near-resignation that trouble was bound to occur. Mr David Evans, general secretary of the Prison Officers' Association, said he had given warnings of troubled years ahead before prisoners went on the rampage in 1986.

He welcomed the statement of aims, but said he feared that without the resources to enable them to be put into practice they would remain empty rhetoric.

The full statement of aims is: "Her Majesty's Prison Service serves the public by keeping in custody those committed by the courts."

"Our duty is to look after them with humanity and to help them lead law-abiding

and useful lives in custody and after release."

Significantly, there is no mention of punishment. The belief has long been strong in the service that prisoners are sent to jail as punishment, not for punishment.

Mr Train says in his letter that locking up people under the criminal law placed on the service a duty to "see that they are not subjected to arbitrary force or discriminated against on racial or any other grounds, are treated with respect, are properly fed, and have their physical and other requirements properly met".

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, said: "Rehabilitative objectives are still necessary for the service."

A modern penal system could not be run on the basis of containment and punishment alone. "Or at least, if you do rely on those concepts to the exclusion of others then the establishment becomes an unsafe place in which to live and work."

Minister commends Times sponsorship

By Simon Tait

Britain's museums are expecting 100 million visits next year, the Minister for the Arts said yesterday as he launched Museums Year 1989 at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

The year, whose patron is the Duchess of York, will be sponsored by *The Times* — "one of the United Kingdom's most powerful communicators", Mr Richard Luce said.

It will be organized by the Museums Association, which has its centenary in 1989.

More than 2,000 museums will participate in the promotion, which will include special



concessions to visitors through a "passport scheme", a comprehensive guide book to museums and their special events, a poster campaign and a national schools' competition, all supported by *The Times*. There is also to be an award for the most innovative museum, given by *The Times*.

"What is happening is quite remarkable", Mr Luce said. "New museums are springing up, traditional museums are adapting, and we need to draw the public's attention to them. I would like to congratulate *The Times* for the very great



Mr Charles Wilson, editor of *The Times* (left), and Mr Richard Luce, Minister for the Arts, at the launch of Museums Year.

contribution this sponsorship is making to support museums", he said.

The Times will also be chronicling Museums Year with a weekly Saturday column, highlighting special events through the country.

New museums which will open during the year include the Design Museum in London, the Chocolate Experience in York, the People's Story in Edinburgh, and Brooklands Racing Museum,

on the site of the former motor racing track in Surrey.

The Queen will send 60 paintings from Windsor Castle on a touring exhibition to provincial museums. The Prime Minister has also pledged her support, and the Arts Council, the Museums and Galleries Commission, the National Art Collections Fund and the British Tourist Authority will be contributing to the year.

Mr Patrick Boylan, presi-

dent of the Museums Association, said the year represented "the biggest promotional event for museums and galleries in this country and probably the world". He said there were two aims: to change the popular image of museums as "dead, dusty and dusty" and to encourage public and private investment.

Ninety-five per cent of museums had opened since the Second World War and were earning Britain £1 billion a year through tourism, he said.

Mr Charles Wilson, editor of *The Times*, said the paper was recognizing the new mix of public and private support in its sponsorship. He quoted the founder of the V & A, Sir Henry Cole, who described museums as "antidotes to brutality and vice".

Today, they were a social phenomenon in their own right, providing education, entertainment and scholarship.

Airlines face £2bn bill to beat radios

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

The world's airlines are reluctantly committed to spending more than £2 billion on re-equipping their aircraft with a new precision landing aid to avoid interference from an increasing number of high-powered commercial radio stations.

Aircraft are now guided towards the centre line of runways by radio beams known as Instrument Landing System (ILS).

As more commercial radio stations encroach closer to the frequencies used by ILS beams pilots are picking up increased interference, throwing the aircraft off course and sending it towards the source of the radio station signal.

The lack of available frequencies has also effectively ruled out any new runways being built in many parts of the world — including the South-east of England — because no channels are available for new ILS equipment.

The International Civil Aviation Organization has ruled that by the end of the century existing ILS equipment, both on the ground and in the aircraft cockpits, will have to be replaced.

It has chosen an American-made device, the Microwave Landing System (MLS). It uses a higher frequency, is not subjected to interference from commercial radio stations and has virtually no limit on the number of channels available.

British Airways, which will

have to spend more than £10 million to re-equip its fleet of 200 aircraft, is carrying out trials with the system, which has been installed in a Boeing 737.

The airline, together with other airlines, is, however, beginning to doubt whether the system is a practical solution to the problem.

One of the main advantages of MLS is that aircraft need not line up with the runway as far as 12 miles before touchdown — as they now must do with ILS — but can make a curved approach.

Such approaches are bound to bring aircraft over areas unused to aircraft noise and would bring protests from people living under the new flight paths.

Rapid developments in guidance techniques are also making satellite navigation a practical possibility, guiding aircraft automatically to within a few feet of the runway with beams from space.

Many aircraft are so packed with advanced electronic gadgetry already that there is simply no room available for the black boxes needed for the MLS system.

The International Civil Aviation Organization is insisting that every airport and every aircraft should be fitted with the new equipment by the year 2000. The International Air Transport Association, remains sceptical that that can be achieved.

Councils told they can save £200m on parks

By David Walker, Public Administration Correspondent

Councils in England and Wales could save up to £200 million a year on maintaining parks and gardens, according to the Audit Commission.

Basing its estimate on tenders coming into town halls from the private sector, the commission said savings of up to 25 per cent were possible without cutting back on hanging baskets or failing to trim the grass.

Under new government rules councils will have to put more of their work out to tender over the next five years. Mr Howard Davies, controller of the commission, said: "Significant savings are possible. Local authorities' own

staff will have their work cut out to keep the business in many areas."

Councils spend £800 million a year on parks and gardens, about £16 for every resident. Bids from the private sector show savings of between 10 and 30 per cent.

The commission recommends the appointment of one inspector for every £500,000 worth of work contracted out.

The Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities said the report put too much weight on cost-cutting and not enough on quality.

Competitive Management of Parks and Green Spaces (Stationery Office, £5).

Finance deal means more British films

By Andrew Billen, Arts Correspondent

Up to 15 more British films will go into production because four cinema and television companies have decided to continue to invest in British Screen Finance Ltd.

It was formed in 1986 and receives a £1.5 million annual grant from the Government. It aims to encourage new talent and innovation by investing in British films.

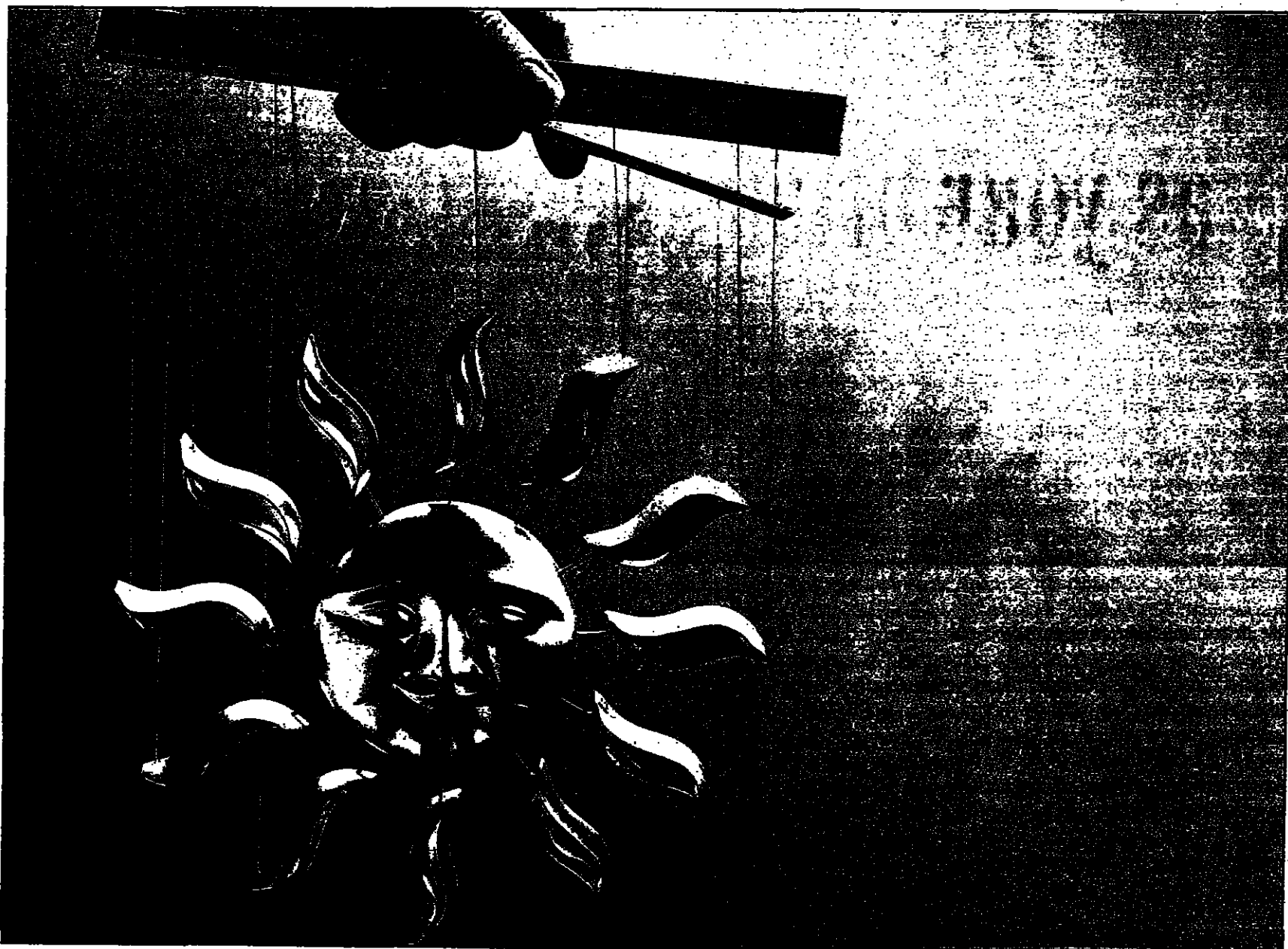
British Screen's extra lease of life has been made possible by the decision of its shareholders, Rank, Cannon, Channel 4 and Granada Television, to reinvest their loans, totalling £3 million.

British Screen had been contracted to start repaying its investors next year. Under the new agreement repayments

will not start until 1991. Mr Simon Ralph, chief executive of British Screen, said: "Although Rank and Cannon decided not to make any new investments, their decision, together with Channel 4 and Granada, to reinvest their existing loans for two years means that 10 to 15 British films will now be funded which would not otherwise have been made."

Talks were being held with the aim of attracting two new investors, he said. British Screen hopes to use the reinvestment as a lever to prise further backing from the Government when its original commitment runs out in 1990. Since 1986 British Screen has provided finance for 33 films.

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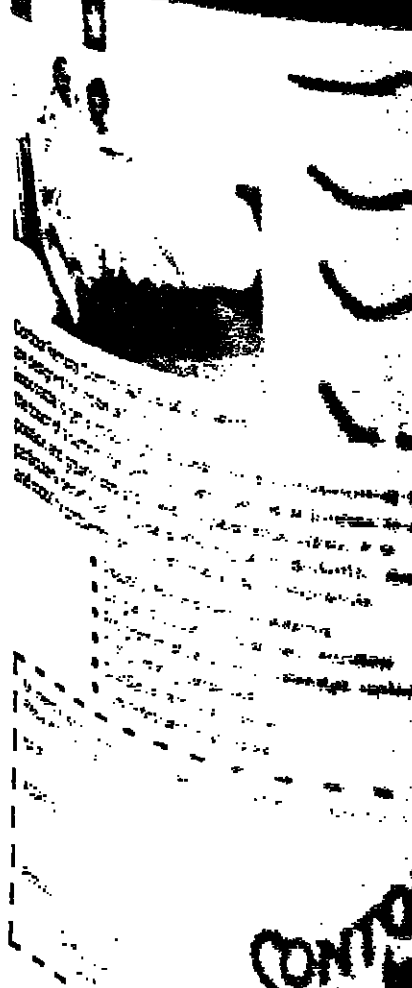
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Office work
fringe benef

Staff laid off as
house sales ease

Dea admits indecent
assaulting girl aged 1

AT LAST - HERE'S RELIEF
FOR YOUR BACK



More holidays and cheaper loans

Office workers prefer fringe benefits to rises

By Tim Jones, Employment Affairs Correspondent

Longer holidays, life insurance and low-interest loans are becoming more important than pay rises to the British office worker.

A survey published today shows that public sector companies are leading the way in sick and maternity pay, training and further education, preparation for retirement, flexible working hours and nursing facilities.

The private sector leads in incentive schemes and bonuses, life insurance, long-term disability insurance and holidays.

The survey, carried out by MaS Research for Alfred Marks and Personnel Today, shows that 49 per cent of the 450 organizations which took part estimate that 20 per cent of their payroll is spent on fringe benefits. In 1980, 38 per cent of firms put the figure at that level.

Mr Tony Martin, chief executive of Alfred Marks, said: "Office staff today have a much sharper sense of the value of fringe benefits than they did 10 years ago."

"Many companies are strengthening their fringe benefits because they know that job applicants are starting to shop around for the best packages."

"Office staff are also prepared to modify their salary demands if the benefits package is attractive. This in turn prevents salaries from escalating". Office staff covered in

the survey included administrative, secretarial and clerical staff, receptionists, telephonists and telex, computer terminal and word processor operators.

One surprising finding of the survey is that incentive schemes have declined in popularity since 1980, in spite of government efforts to encourage profit-related pay.

Eight years ago, 40 per cent had a share option or profit-sharing scheme but this year that had fallen to 37 per cent.

Nearly 50 per cent of the retail and computing companies questioned offered profit-related schemes against only one of the public sector companies.

Holidays for office staff, the survey shows, have increased in the past 13 years, with 79 per cent of companies giving more than 20 days a year.

In the manufacturing and construction sector, 93 per cent of companies give more than 20 days holiday as a basic entitlement, compared to 68 per cent in retail, 65 per cent in financial services, 58 per cent of the public sector and 65 per cent of computing services.

The vast majority of companies provided a recognized occupational pension scheme, 90 per cent being contributory and 16 per cent non-contributory. Life cover was provided by 81 per cent of those

questioned, with 57 per cent providing for three times salary or more, against the more common multiple of twice the salary a decade ago.

The survey shows that private medical insurance continues to be one of the most popular fringe benefits, provided by 57 per cent of employers in 1980 and by 64 per cent in 1988.

Companies offering some form of medical insurance are equally divided between those providing it free and those who run a group discount scheme.

Low-interest house purchase loans, the survey shows, are still rare, with only 14 per cent of companies making such allowances. Those companies are mainly based in London.

Fifty-nine per cent of financial companies offered assistance in employees' house purchases. That nearly always takes the form of a mortgage loan at the "house" rate of interest.

In spite of the demographic changes which it had been thought would increase demand for working mothers, flexible hours are slightly less common than they were a decade ago. But paternity leave has become more generous, with 19 per cent of the organizations allowing new fathers two or three days off.

Champagne for Sir Michael



Sir Michael Hordern in expansive mood yesterday with Dinah Sheridan, left, presented him with an award in honour of his contribution to British theatre, and Pauline Collins, who won an award for best actress.

Drama magazine theatre awards ceremony at the Theatre Museum, Covent Garden.

Miss Collins won her award for her portrayal of Shirley Valentine in the Willy Russell play, directed by Simon Callow. The best actor award was shared by Alec Jennings and Tom Wilkinson.

David Hare won the best new play award for *The Secret Rapture*. The award for best director went to Peter Brook for his Glasgow production of *The Mahabharata*.

The Renaissance Theatre company, set up last year by Mr Kenneth Branagh and Mr David Parfitt, won a special award.

JPs' clerks pay row goes to arbitration

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

The staffing crisis at magistrates' courts in England and Wales has deepened with the collapse of pay talks involving senior lawyers.

The dispute, which will be referred to arbitration, is over a 5.4 per cent pay offer to the Justices' Clerks' Society, representing 300 chief legal advisers to magistrates.

Mr Tony Heath, the society secretary, said: "The apparent unwillingness of management to negotiate realistically at a time when the court service faces an ever-growing crisis in relation to the recruitment of lawyers is deeply disturbing".

The dispute comes as the magistrates' courts' service faces acute staff shortages. Unfilled vacancies have closed some courts. There were more than 100 positions vacant last September and indications were that the position worsened in October, the society said. Pay negotiations involving the Association of Magisterial Officers, representing 1,200 court clerks, have already gone to arbitration.

Both want salaries brought into line with those in the Crown Prosecution Service. The Justices' clerks seek a package involving a rise of more than 40 per cent on the wages bill.

Staff laid off as house sales ease

By Christopher Warrman, Property Correspondent

The house market is likely to "hibernate" for the next few months as prices level out, the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors says in its latest property survey.

The prediction came as the National Association of estate agents disclosed yesterday that agents are laying off staff, particularly in the South-east, as sales decrease.

The RICS says the ending of multiple tax relief, rises in interest rates and a belief that property prices would drop have slowed the market.

The number of estate agents reporting static prices since the last survey a month ago has doubled to 43 per cent, although agents feel confidence will gradually return as buyers and sellers become resigned to higher mortgage rates and realize that prices will fall only in isolated cases.

Mr Peter Miller, the institution's housing market spokesman, said the effects of the dormant market in southern England were being felt over a greater part of the country.

"Prices are stabilizing, with asking prices being revised downwards in certain cases to adjust to market conditions. I

do not subscribe to the predictions being made of a general falling of prices."

Of the 188 agents contributing to the survey of the three months to October 31, 11 per cent reported price rises of 8 per cent, 17 per cent reported rises of 5 per cent and 21 per cent said they had risen by 2 per cent. Eight per cent said they had fallen.

A special survey of Yorkshire and Humberside showed that prices were still rising fast, with 31 per cent of agents reporting increases of 8 per cent, and 44 per cent rises of 5 per cent. By contrast, London and the South-east is now a buyers' market, the institution says. Mr Trevor Kent, vice-president of the estate agents' association, said of the staff lay-offs: "Agents were starting with a high base, having taken more staff on to cope with the busy summer."

It was not unusual for agents to lay off staff or for them to move on in quiet periods, he said. "Many are on a low basic salary, with high commissions for sales, and when they do not get those they realize they can earn more elsewhere."

Don admits indecently assaulting girl aged 15

A university lecturer who pleaded guilty to indecently assaulting a girl aged 15 was given a nine-month jail sentence, suspended for two years, yesterday.

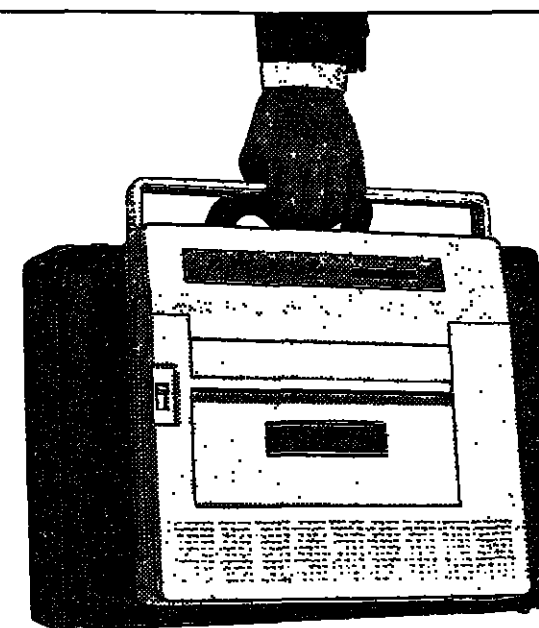
Stoke Crown Court was told that Dr Gregory Ruscov, aged 40, an English lecturer at Keele University, Staffordshire, spent hundreds of pounds on gifts for the girl. They included a £200 engagement ring and a £150 coat.

Dr Ruscov, a Canadian, who has been suspended from his £15,000-a-year job, faces dismissal when the university

council meets next month. Judge Shand said: "You will keep your liberty because I am satisfied that this was not a totally cynical exploitation of the girl. It was part of a relationship in which you genuinely showed some degree of respect for her."

Mr Michael Challinor, for the prosecution, said a four-month affair started after Ruscov ended a relationship with the girl's separated mother. However, the mother found out and had allegedly confronted him with a knife, stabbing him in the shoulder.

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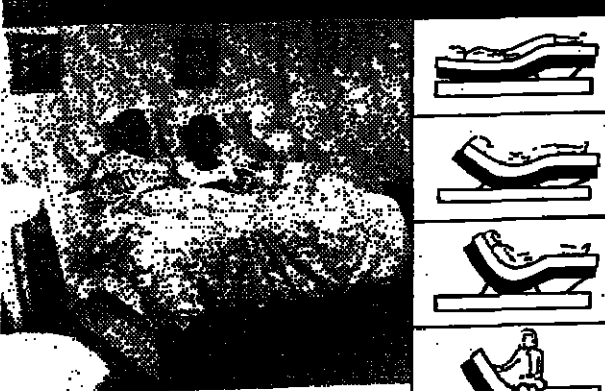
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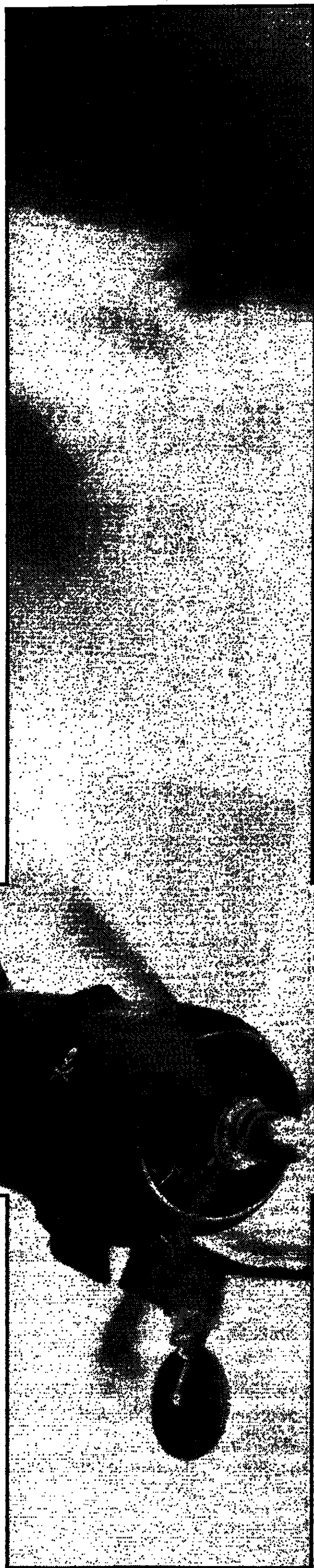
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Bush predicted
agenda to

WORLD ROUNDUP

China's Knesset
session

Italian MPs resolve
to using cocaine

JP 11-61150

Bush predecessors propose agenda to tackle decline

From Bailey Morris and Michael Blayon, Washington

President-elect George Bush was presented yesterday with a broad programme to correct America's most urgent problems by two former presidents who emphasized the need for swift, effective leadership to reverse a gradual decline in the US economy.

In a bipartisan report entitled *The American Agenda*, former Presidents Jimmy Carter and Gerald Ford identified the most pressing problems and offered a range of solutions, indicating their firm belief that Mr Bush had a unique opportunity to effect a cure but only through strong medicine.

The huge US budget and trade deficits were at the top of the list of urgent issues facing Mr Bush as, was the \$80 billion (\$44.4 billion) crisis in the US savings and loan industry which was undermining investor confidence.

But the report, prepared by Mr Carter, Mr Ford and other distinguished officials, also indicated that the US had lost sight of traditional social goals which had built a unique foundation in contributing to America's post-Second World War excellence.

Of particular concern was the decline in the US educational system as evident by growing illiteracy, and the high drop-out rate in inner-

city schools, the report said. Housing programmes for the poor and homeless were also cited as an urgent need requiring the new President's attention.

Mr Bush indicated yesterday that he did not plan to alter his campaign pledge not to raise new taxes, to reduce the deficit, in coming negotiations with Congress. He declared: "We are going to pursue the course the American people so overwhelmingly endorsed in the election."

Meanwhile, Mr Bush made three more key appointments yesterday:

Mr Richard Thornburgh, a moderate Republican and former governor of Pennsylvania, has won wide respect for restoring order and tranquillity to the troubled Justice Department since taking over from Mr Edwin Meese as Attorney-General in July. He remains in the post.

A former US attorney for Pittsburgh, Mr Thornburgh gained a reputation as an outspoken and aggressive prosecutor who went after organized crime figures, narcotics dealers, environmental polluters and corrupt public officials.

In 1975, when the Justice Department was still smarting under criticism over its handling of the Watergate in-

vestigation, President Ford chose Mr Thornburgh as assistant Attorney-General in charge of the department's criminal division. Mr Thornburgh then created the Public Integrity Section, which prosecutes cases against corrupt officials.

He left in late 1977 and was elected Governor of Pennsylvania. During his two terms, he pushed through mandatory minimum sentencing for repeatedly violent offenders, imposed a strict code of conduct for state employees and signed the first death warrants in the state in 20 years.

Richard Darman, aged 45, the new director of the Office of Management and Budget, he is a former deputy Treasury Secretary. He was considered a brilliant, if somewhat abrasive, member of the team that worked with Mr James Baker at the Treasury.

His rapid rise in government service began in 1971 as a deputy assistant secretary at the Department of Health, Education and Welfare in the Nixon Administration, becoming an assistant to the Defence Secretary two years later. In the Ford Administration, he was assistant secretary in the Commerce Department from 1976 to 1977, leaving the Government on Mr Carter's

election to become a lecturer at Harvard. He returned to Washington with President Reagan in 1981, serving with Mr Baker in the White House and following him to the Treasury in 1985.

Mr Darman has also had widespread experience of international finance and negotiations, being vice-chairman of the US delegation to the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea, and a key member of the US delegation at all the annual summits of the seven industrialized nations from 1981 until 1986.

Ismao Cavazos, aged 61, the re-appointed Education Secretary, he is a former president of Texas Tech University. He became the first Hispanic cabinet member when President Reagan appointed him to succeed Mr William Bennett as Education Secretary in August. A medical doctor who has spent most of his life in university teaching, he is an old friend of Mr Bush.

Dr Cavazos, a Roman Catholic with 10 children, was named last year to the Hispanic Hall of Fame League of United Latin American citizens. He has also been prominent in Texas education, being a member of the governor's task force and regional health education bodies.

Waiting game for Canadian leaders



Mr Brian Mulroney, left, the Canadian Prime Minister, casting his vote yesterday in Comau, Quebec, while Mr Edward Broadbent, centre, the New Democratic Party leader, and his wife Lucille, were casting their ballots in Oshawa, Ontario. The Liberal leader, Mr John Turner, had earlier arrived in Vancouver for election day, confidently waving his cowboy hat.

After a seven-week campaign marked by dramatic swings in national opinion polls, the three main party leaders returned to their home constituencies (Christopher Thomas writes from Ot-

tawa). The 17 million eligible voters have been inundated in the past three weeks with arguments about the sweeping free trade agreement with the United States, due to take effect on January 1.

Only the Progressive Conservative Party of Mr Mulroney supports the pact. The Liberals and the smaller New Democrats say the deal is a sell-out to powerful American business interests.

In 1984 there was a 75 per cent voter turnout. The Treasury estimated that the election cost \$96 million (\$43 million) — well over \$7 for every vote cast. The outlay will rise sharply this time. Mr

Mulroney's party went into the election with 211 seats, the result of a 1984 landslide. The latest internal Progressive Democratic surveys suggested that the Government would be returned with a reduced majority.

The socialist New Democrats mounted their most ambitious campaign ever, with Mr Broadbent, maintaining a punishing pace and travelling more than 30,000 miles in seven weeks. For a few weeks the Liberals moved ahead in the polls after Mr Turner decisively won two national television debates with arguments against the free trade pact.

WORLD ROUNDUP

Chaos as Knesset begins session

Jerusalem — The new Israeli Parliament (Knesset) got off to a stormy start yesterday when a ceremonious opening session degenerated into utter chaos and culminated in the first of what promised to be many future parliamentary victories for the right-wing religious alliance in the House (David Bernstein writes).

The furor started when the acting Speaker, Mr Yair Sprinzak of the radical right-wing Moledet Party, made a politically loaded opening speech reflecting his own political ideology. His party advocates the "transfer" of the Palestinians from the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to the surrounding Arab countries.

Denial on share deal

Tokyo (Reuters) — Japan's opposition parties yesterday called on Mr Hiromasa Ezoe, former chairman of the parent company of Recruit Cosmos which sold shares to prominent politicians and bureaucrats before being listed in 1986, to name more people involved in the scandal.

Mr Ezoe denied any other public figures had received shares beyond those named, who include the Finance Minister, Mr Kiichi Miyazawa, and the secretary to the Prime Minister, Mr Noboru Takeshita. "I would rather die than reveal further names," he said.

Gains for neo-fascists

Rome — The Italian neo-fascist party, the MSI, increased its share of the vote in the South Tyrol elections on Sunday (Roger Boyes writes). The swing to the far right reflects dissatisfaction with an "autonomy package", drawn up by the Italian Government, that gives privileges to the German-speaking population in the troubled mountain region. The dominant party remains the Südtiroler Volkspartei, which supports the package.

The neo-fascists will now have five seats in the regional parliament — more than the Communists.

Hamadei 'insane'

Frankfurt (Reuters) — Lawyers for the Lebanese hijacker, Muhammad Ali Hamadei, indicated yesterday that they would seek his acquittal on grounds of insanity. They said he was shell-shocked after guerrilla battles in Lebanon and filed a motion demanding medical expertise on injuries which "had damaged his capacity to tell right from wrong".

New Chernobyl 'risk'

Stockholm (Reuters) — Increased radiation found in game after the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in April, 1986 has deterred hunters, causing a rise in accidents as more animals stray on to Swedish roads. The state Roads Board reported that in the 10 months up to the end of October, 14,340 accidents had been caused by wildlife wandering on to roads, an increase of 1,300 on the same period in 1987.

Italian MPs resort to using cocaine

From Roger Boyes, Rome

The snorting of cocaine is now common practice in the Italian Parliament as deputies try to relieve the tedium and stress of political in-fighting, according to a flurry of revelations by politicians.

"Yes, the cocaine certainly flows in the Senate," said Signor Clemente Mastella, aged 41, a Christian Democratic MP who, like other "whistle-blowers", denies any personal drug habit.

"Catholic deputies like myself view cocaine as alien to their moral values and their culture. We also have a natural diffidence that makes drugs seem more sinful than sex."

"I would say that the cocaine sniffers in Parliament usually come from the big northern cities, rather than from the south."

"The deputies who abuse cocaine usually come from a privileged background — they do it because they think it is a drug for refined, affluent and successful men of culture. They do it to feel 'high', to eliminate frustration. Political life is not always happy."

This is an embarrassing time for such exposure, with the country in the grips of a campaign against drug abuse. A Socialist Party proposal to make the possession of drugs a criminal offence is at present receiving serious consid-

eration. A 1975 Italian Law limited punishment to drug dealers. But the Mafia and other drug traders have been exploiting this by recruiting addicts who are given small quantities to sell among their friends.

Huge networks of these small-time — and legally untouchable — dealers have spread through Italy, and are particularly active in schools.

MPs, in any case, have immunity from the law. The stress of the job, the separation from families, the ease of supply and the fashionable image of cocaine have encouraged deputies to take drugs at the close of parliamentary business or, according to some accounts, before entering the Chamber.

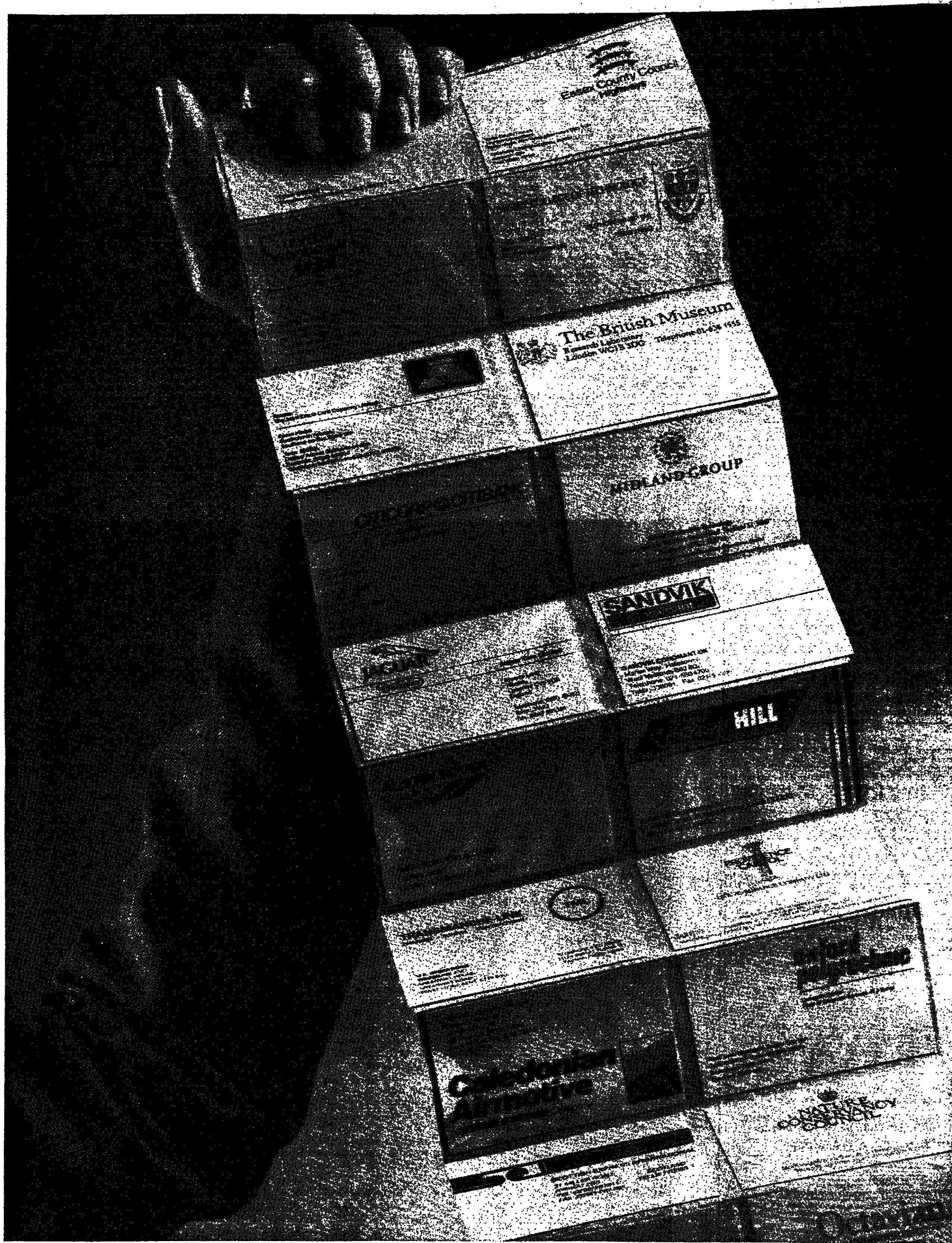
A recent medical survey of deputies showed that they suffered from a wide range of stress-related illnesses.

It is difficult to pinpoint the exact identity of the cocaine abusers. Signor Felice Borgoglio, a Socialist Party deputy, said: "I know that in the leadership of my party there are those who have used cocaine."

Many deputies privately admit to taking cannabis, especially if they are in the generation that were students in the 1960s. Some say they picked up the habit while studying in Britain.



J A N N E A U
V.P.O.P. Amaghae



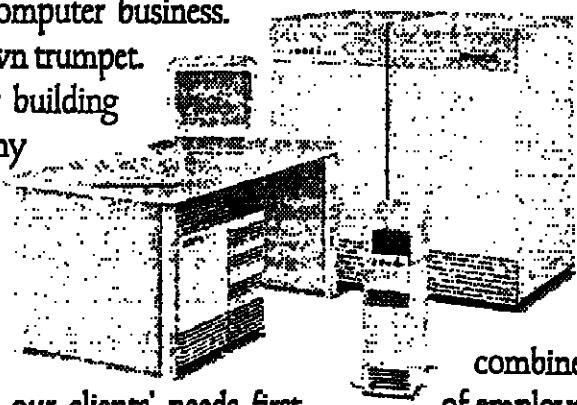
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Pakistan rivals veto notion of joint rule in fight to the finish

From Anatol Lieven, Islamabad

Both main rival parties in Pakistan have rejected the idea of a government of national unity.

Their leaders, Miss Benazir Bhutto of the Pakistan People's Party, and the Chief Minister of Punjab, Mr Nawaz Sharif, leader of the Islamic Democratic Alliance, are both expected in Islamabad today and tomorrow for talks with President Ishtiaq Khan.

The phrase about the need to "forge a consensus and lay down the foundations of a broad-based popular government in the country" had been used by the Chief of Staff, General Aslam Beg. It was taken to be a suggestion of a government of national unity, resembling the former Israeli one between Labour and Likud.

Miss Bhutto, however, immediately rejected the idea. She said: "After having the people's mandate, a national unity government cannot be formed." Yesterday at a press conference in Islamabad, Mr Murtaza Pooya, the leader of the Hizbe Jihad Party within the IDA, also rejected the idea on behalf of his alliance.

"This idea of a grand alli-

ance really does not take off," he said. "The future of this country lies in forces that are arrayed against each other, to prevent arbitrary rule."

Observers, however, point out that after the results of the provincial assembly elections on Saturday, the forces arrayed against each other were likely to be not just government and opposition in Parliament, but also the national government and that of Punjab, the province with more than 60 per cent of Pakistan's population. The democratic alliance gained 108 seats there to the PPP's 94, and is also claiming the support of several independents.

People here agree that for a government of Miss Bhutto in Islamabad and one of Mr Sharif in Lahore to co-exist, exceptional restraint would be required on both sides.

At present, the mood is still of a fight to the finish. The alliance is claiming — though with diminishing optimism — the right to try to form a national coalition, on the basis of it being the larger party in three out of four provinces. Both sides have been in touch in the past two days with the

third largest party, the Mohajir Qaumi Movement.

The People's Party is trying to undermine the alliance's lead in Punjab by winning over independent MPs. Miss Bhutto is expected in Lahore today for a meeting of her party's central executive. In a move which underlines the importance of developments in Punjab, she has asked the President to defer their meeting until tomorrow. Mr Sharif, however, is still expected to see him today.

Speaking to the press, Miss Bhutto has confirmed that negotiations with the independents are in progress, though she refused to give names.

If Mr Pooya's press conference is anything to go by, the alliance is prepared to use all legal methods — as well as what he called "mobilization of public opinion" to bring down a government of Miss Bhutto, irrespective of its parliamentary majority.

Mr Pooya said the IDA rejected the idea of a woman as prime minister as un-Islamic, and might take the case against this to the federal Sharia court, the highest Islamic court in Pakistan.

Seoul students vent anger



Masked riot police protecting the windscreen of a South Korean police van carrying 15 students who were arrested after an attack on the United States Embassy's Information Service office in Seoul yesterday.

Students, yelling "Yankee go home", had tried to storm the building and smashed its lobby with steel rods before police repulsed them, officials said (AP reports). Eight police

officers and two of the attackers were hurt in the assault, the latest in a series of attacks by radicals on US facilities in Seoul and other South Korean cities. Police said one officer was taken to hospital in a serious condition.

Police officers said that 15 students rushed the office, hurled a firebomb, swept past police guards and forced their way through the main door into the lobby. Police then used tear gas.

Police hold 69 in raid on Madrid Scientology talks

From Philip Jacobson, Madrid

More than 60 delegates to an International Church of Scientology conference here were arrested after a nine-month, nationwide investigation.

After a police raid on their hotel, 69 delegates from around the world were initially held for questioning about alleged offences ranging from fraud, illegal currency export and tax evasion to coercion, kidnapping and forging official documents.

After a brief hearing yesterday morning, the investigating judge in charge of the case, Señor José Vaskucz Honrubia, released all but 20 of those arrested in what was the culmination of a nine-month investigation of Scientology activities in Spain.

A simultaneous swoop on the organization's 30 offices in Spain, including its headquarters in the capital, is said to have produced a haul of about 300 internal files and financial statements.

According to the judge, there is evidence gathered from extensive telephone tapping that the Scientologists — registered in Spain as a non-profit making religious body — had ill-gotten gains. The only God they worshipped, the judge said, had been profit:

"The records show that their first objective was to make money... and their last was to make even more."

Among those detained was Mr Herbert Heitsch, a US citizen said to be on the organization's central directorate. About 20 other Americans, plus Portuguese, Swiss, Venezuelans, Italians and Danes had also been held. Most of those still detained yesterday are understood to be from Portugal.

The judge has indicated that he expects to announce more arrests shortly, after which the Scientologists' dossier will be handed over to the jurisdiction of the Audiencia Nacional, which deals with more important cases.

The first of the police investigations has been directed at the church's two main activities inside Spain.

An organization called Narconon has been running "rehabilitation centres" for drug addicts, the judge said. The vitamin and mineral treatment costs £800 a month. The Scientologists' other money-making arm in Spain is alleged to have been Dianética, which provided courses in "mental reconstruction", brain-child of Lafayette Ron Hubbard, the founder of Scientology.

Curb on glasnost

East Germans ban Soviet magazine

By Anne McElvoy

East Germany has dug its heels in over adopting Soviet glasnost by banning the popular Soviet press digest *Spitsnik*.

An announcement at the weekend in *Neues Deutschland*, the Communist Party daily, declared that the magazine is to be deleted from the list of publications which can be sent through the post in East Germany.

The reason given for the ban was that *Spitsnik* "made no contribution to strengthening German-Soviet relations," and it was accused of making "distorting contributions to the record of history". The second charge is the most outspoken official comment to date on the East German Government's dissatisfaction with glasnost in the Soviet Union.

A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in East Berlin said yesterday that he was unable to comment on the move, and his own department had only heard of it in Saturday's press announcement. He said that no other department would discuss the decision.

With a substantially reduced number of copies of *Pravda* available in the country since President Gorbachev's reform programme began, subscriptions to *Spitsnik* have risen dramatically.

Neues Deutschland has reduced its coverage of Soviet speeches and has been openly criticized by the Soviet President for making strategic cuts in the speeches that it does carry. Although the announcement was innocuously signed by the Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, the impetus for the magazine's withdrawal evidently comes on much higher authority.

Herr Kurt Hager, the party's chief ideologist, this month rejected the need for East Germany to follow the Soviet Union's reforms, declaring that they were "simply not transferable to other communist countries".

Western diplomats say that the move signals an open rejection of Mr Gorbachev's media glasnost and the sudden and public manner of a gauntlet being thrown down to Moscow by the veteran East German leader, Herr Erich Honecker.

Dr Dominic Lieven, senior lecturer in Russian government at the London School of Economics, said that the new Soviet openness on historical matters was proving particularly worrying to East Germany, whose legitimacy as a state derives only from the administrative convenience of 1945.

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Algiers declaration

EEC still to decide policy on Palestine

From Our Own Correspondent, Brussels

Foreign ministers of the European Community yesterday put the final touches to an EEC communiqué warmly approving the historic decision in Algiers last week by the Palestine National Congress implicitly recognizing the state of Israel.

But member states have undertaken not to go it alone in recognizing a Palestinian state in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip until the Community as a whole is ready to do so — an issue now widely expected to be high on the agenda when EEC heads of state gather in Rhodes for their summit meeting next month.

The EEC communiqué accepts the Algiers declaration as a big step towards a "permanent and fair solution" to the Middle East problem, and describes the Council's recognition of UN Resolution 242 and 338 as a "necessary condition" for a new round of Middle East peace talks.

Ministers had earlier been at odds over the most effective way of responding to the Council's simultaneous declaration of a Palestinian

state and its call for a new round of Middle East peace talks based on UN Resolution 242, which was passed after the 1967 Six Day War.

The resolution calls for the whole region to exercise self-determination — implying Israel's right to self-determination as well. Although there was little chance of the Community explicitly recognizing a Palestinian "state" that has no territory, ministers were divided earlier over the precise wording of the text supporting the Council's new-found moderation.

Mr Theodoros Pangalos, the Greek Foreign Minister, expressed a strong desire for the Community to give maximum support to the Algiers declaration while falling short of Greece's undisputed preference for outright recognition.

But Greece, which holds the presidency of the Council of Ministers, appears for the moment to have held back from unilateral recognition for fear that any action outside the scope of Community consensus could have a damaging impact on any pros-

pects for new peace negotiations.

France and Italy were also eager to throw their full weight behind the Council's declaration — and called for the communiqué to include a direct reference to UN Resolution 181, adopted in 1947, urging the creation of two states out of the former Palestinian mandate.

Reflecting earlier statements by Mrs Thatcher, Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, welcomed the Council's move towards full and explicit acceptance of Israel's right to exist, but insisted that the declaration of a Palestinian state was "too premature".

The Community's decision to welcome the Algiers declaration has further opened up the gulf between the EEC and the United States.

● PEKING: China has now officially recognized the state of Palestine, the official news agency, Xinhua, has announced. China's initial reaction last week had stopped short of explicit recognition of the new state.

Leading article, page 17

Snow forces French retreat to barracks



French soldiers of the French-West German Brigade returning to their quarters at barracks in Böblingen, West Germany, yesterday after waiting in vain for the army chiefs of staff of West Germany and France to arrive. The generals had planned to hold their first joint official visit yesterday but heavy snow prevented General Gilbert Fournier, of France, from attending.

Tropical storm menaces Florida

Miami (Reuter) — Tropical storm Keith, nearing hurricane strength, lashed Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula and western Cuba yesterday as it roared along a path that could bring it ashore in western Florida later in the week.

Forecasters at the National Hurricane Centre in Miami said early reports showed the rare late-season storm had inflicted light damage on the Mexican resort island of Cancun, which was battered in September by Hurricane Gilbert. Keith is expected to develop into a hurricane.

Swap delayed

Nicosia (Reuter) — An exchange of sick or disabled prisoners captured by Iran and Iraq was delayed. The International Committee of the Red Cross, chartering aircraft for the swap, asked for the delay.

Population up

Canberra (Reuter) — Australia has recorded its largest jump in population in nearly 40 years, by 268,000 to 16.5 million, thanks to a sharp rise in Asian immigration.

Lebanon blast

Beirut (AFP) — A car-bomb explosion in Syrian-controlled eastern Lebanon, aimed at leaders of the pro-Iranian Shiite militia, Hezbollah, left three people injured.

Younger trip

Abu Dhabi (Reuter) — The British Defence Secretary, Mr George Younger, arrived in Abu Dhabi to discuss security in the Gulf.

Waste protest

Gibraltar — After mounting a protest, members of the environmental group, Greenpeace, will meet Mr Joe Bossano, Chief Minister of Gibraltar in an attempt to persuade the colony to stop dumping household waste at sea.

Israel summons Arab envoy

Jerusalem (Reuter) — Israel summoned the Egyptian Ambassador, Mr Muhammad Bassiouny, yesterday to protest against Cairo's recognition of a Palestinian state — a move the Israelis say violates the 1978 Camp David peace accords.

The Defence Minister, Mr Yitzhak Rabin, said: "Egypt has deviated from its Camp David commitments" in recognizing a state declared by the Palestine National Council last week in Algiers.

The US-sponsored accords, the basis for the only peace treaty between Israel and an Arab state, say the status of the

occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip should remain unchanged until decided by negotiation.

Ignoring Israeli objections, Egypt on Sunday granted full recognition to the Palestinian state. Thirty-five countries, many Arab and Muslim, have recognized it.

The Foreign Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, said he regretted the move. "We already have so many complications on the road to peace, this is another one. I would not consider it progress in our relations," he said.

Foreign Ministry officials said Israel objected to Egypt's

recognition because the declaration of a state was a unilateral move, not the result of negotiations.

Right-wing politicians demanded that Israel retaliate against Egypt by keeping the disputed border territory of Tabá. An international panel of arbiters settled a six-year border argument over the strip of Red Sea beach in September, granting most to Egypt.

But Mr Yossi Beilin, former director-general of the Foreign Ministry, rejected the calls and said Israel should have expected the Egyptian response, which he said was in line with Cairo policy.

Accusations of unlawful killings and ill-treatment, including rape and torture by police in the east Indian state of Bihar, were made today in a report by the human rights organization, Amnesty International.

Case histories in Amnesty's report include allegations of the rape and beating of villagers by police; the failure of police to file charges of rape against local landlords; the deaths in custody of an agricultural labourer and a boy, aged 14, after both had allegedly been tortured and beaten; and reports of extra-judicial killings by police firing at random into crowds which, in one incident, caused the deaths of at least 23 people.

There are also reports of police collusion in killings ordered by landlords and one incident in which two sharecroppers, who had taken legal action against their landlord, were allegedly shot dead by police officers at their village. The report said the police were accompanied by the landlord, who pointed out the victims before they were killed.

regards the corrupt Bihar administration as a secure and reliable Congress (I) ally, will not be well received here.

An earlier report this year on human rights abuses in India was contemptuously dismissed by the Government.

The Indians do not allow Amnesty to make official visits to the country to conduct inquiries, and repeated requests by the organization to visit Punjab earlier this year were turned down.

A spokesman in London said yesterday: "All our repeated requests for discussions with the Government have met with no response".

Amnesty said the information in this report was based

on press reporting and independent reports received in London which have been verified as much as possible.

Bihar enjoys the dubious distinction of being India's most backward and corrupt state with one of the lowest literacy rates in the country. It is regarded by independent observers as being virtually ungovernable.

They say its problems have been made worse by central government neglect. A new Chief Minister, Mr Bagwat Jha Azad, sent in by Mr Gandhi in March, has had little success and there have been rumours that he may be removed and direct rule by Delhi imposed to restore order.

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US prepares to unveil Stealth bomber

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

The Soviet Union would be unable to detect itself against a combination of America's new B2 Stealth bombers, the B1B low-altitude bombers and the old B52s armed with new cruise missiles, according to General Larry Welch, the Chief of Staff of the American Air Force.

The general made his claim as the US prepared to unveil the Stealth bomber, one of the most secret of the Pentagon's so-called "black" defence programmes. The first B2 advanced technology bomber will be rolled out for restricted public display today at Palmdale, California.

The Stealth bomber, a highly controversial Pentagon project, is shaped like a flying wing and has been designed over the past 10 years to penetrate Soviet air defences without being seen on radar. It is built of materials that absorb or deflect radar beams, with four engines hidden so

that exhausts cannot be detected by infra-red sensors.

General Welch, in an interview with the *New York Times*, said the cost of the B2 programme had risen by up to 20 per cent from \$40 billion (\$21.9 billion) to \$44 billion at 1981 prices — more than \$67 billion at current prices. The US Air Force has a requirement for 132 Stealth bombers, which means that each will cost about \$300 million, twice as much as the B1B which is now in service.

He admitted that overall cost would be "the B2's single political difficulty". He said: "It's just simply the size of the number, it's not a matter of calculating whether it's worth it".

The general, who heads the Strategic Air Command, said the combination of the B52, B1B and B2 would "make it virtually impossible for the Soviets to devise defences" to repel an attack.

However, the latest edition of *Jane's All the World's Aircraft*, published yesterday, gives a warning about the

Stealth bomber. In a foreword, the editor, Mr John Taylor, says: "No one can doubt the superb capability of the US aerospace industry, or that of the research centres like Nasa that feed it with every form of advanced technology."

"None the less, remembering the history of earlier Northrop flying wings, the sight of such a revolutionary design, made of new materials and said to be controlled entirely by thrust vectoring, must inspire sincere prayers for the safety of those who will fly it."

Mr Taylor adds: "While hoping for its success, which would add a unique weapon to the forces required for maintenance of a worldwide balance of power, it is essential to know that the US Air Force has its B1Bs."

However, the B1B — a derivative of the old B1 bomber — which had its first flight in October, 1984, has suffered a number of setbacks. Recently a third bomber in the fleet crashed. The B1B programme was

started under President Nixon, cancelled by President Carter and revived by President Reagan.

The B2 Stealth bomber is one of four generations of aircraft using Stealth technology, the earlier ones being the SR71 long-range reconnaissance aircraft that can fly up to 90,000 ft at three times the speed of sound, Lockheed's F117A fighter-jet, whose existence was only officially acknowledged this month, although it has been flying for seven years, and the advanced cruise missile, which is still being developed.

The US Air Force issued an artist's impression of the B2 in April this year, revealing its flying wing configuration.

General Welch indicated that the primary target for the Stealth bomber, armed with high-yield nuclear weapons, when it becomes operational in the early 1990s would be protected command posts intended to shelter Soviet civilian and military leaders deep underground.

Outrage over 'blasphemous' novel

Muslim leader seeks ban

From Christopher Walker, Cairo

Salman Rushdie, the distinguished novelist whose prize-winning work, *The Satanic Verses*, has already been declared blasphemous in his native India, faces the prospect of a ban in the Islamic world and legal proceedings.

A ruling by Cairo's Al-Azhar, the most venerated Islamic institute, was delivered yesterday by the Grand Sheikh of Al-Azhar, Gad el-Haq Ali Gad el-Haq.

He called on all Islamic organizations based in Britain to join in taking legal steps to prevent continuing distribution there.

The book won the novel section of the prestigious 1988 Whitbread literary prize. The sheikh, one of the most

influential Muslim leaders, described the novel as containing "lies and figments of the imagination" about Islam which were passed off as facts. He demanded that the 46-nation Islamic Conference Organization should take concerted action against "a distortion of Islamic history".

The novel is a moral parable about contemporary Britain and India and the conflict of good and evil, represented by two Indian survivors from a Jumbo jet blown up by terrorists at 30,000 ft who find themselves changing, one into the Angel Gabriel and the other into the Devil.

Western diplomatic observers here said they could not recall a recent example of a

work of "fiction" provoking such universal fury among Islamic scholars. According to the Sheikh of Al-Azhar, who claimed that the necessary measures to have it banned in Egypt had already been taken, it referred to the prophet Muhammad, his wives, and his followers offensively.

The 1,000-year-old Al-Azhar institute is considered the seat of Islamic theology. The strength of its ruling against *The Satanic Verses*, which is named after the verses the prophet removed from the Koran on the grounds that they were inspired by the Devil, will ensure that heavy international pressure is aimed at the book.

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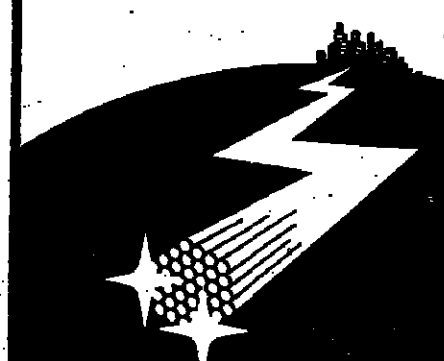
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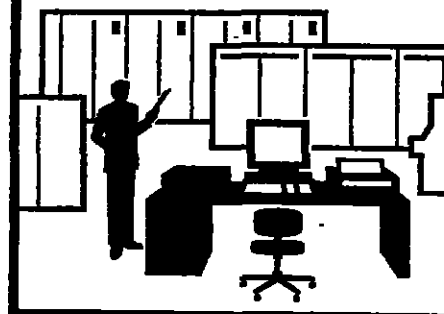
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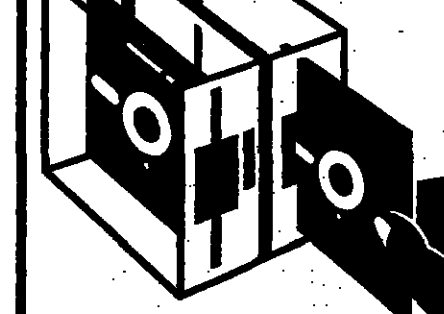
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Tanks back bandit warfare in Eritrean struggle

From Andrew Backhouse, near Keren, Eritrea

Wadi Suhul, surveying the Ethiopian positions 10 miles out of Keren with his one eye — there is an empty socket where the other should be — looks a bit like a bandit, a word often used by President Mengistu to describe Eritrean rebels.

A veteran of the last 15 years of the Eritreans' 27-year fight for independence, Wadi Suhul, aged 33, is a brigade commander in the Eritrean People's Liberation Army. As ravens and falcons circled his mountain command post, we looked at trenches and bunkers of the Eritrean line on the ridge below, and those of the Ethiopians 500 yards beyond.

Unlike most bandits, he had tanks and heavy artillery stationed in the valleys behind us — T54s and T55s, Stalin rocket launchers and guns up to 130mm in calibre, all captured from the Ethiopians. The front was ominously quiet, he said.

We had heard explosions from 25 miles away the night before, but he dismissed that as a little Ethiopian mortar fire. There were no casualties. As we panted up the mountain at dawn, we had been passed by groups of fighters running down with jerrycans to collect water, cheerfully shouting at each other. They are supremely confident, and Wadi Suhul — a nickname which means son of Suhul — said their main complaint was: "Why don't we attack?"

In the past two days, we had followed the route of its 60-mile advance, driving mostly at night, like everything else in the "liberated areas", for fear of the Ethiopian MiGs.

Last December, the rebels broke the line south of Nakfa, after a subterranean defence of the town against repeated offensives for 10 years. It became the kingdom of a 250-mile line protecting the rebels' base area in the northern highlands after the "strategic withdrawal" that followed the introduction of massive Soviet support for

the Ethiopian Army in 1978. Ten years of bombardment forced the inhabitants and defenders into bunkers as virtually every building except the mosque and a tiny church on the outskirts were destroyed. The rebel army has scant respect for religion, however. The mosque is covered in slogans and the church is home to some fighters.

At the old front the trenches were some places as close as 50 yards apart. After Ethiopian positions were taken by massed infantry assault, the line stabilized about five miles south, and then in March the rebels attacked again.

In 48 hours they had taken Afabet, 35 miles further to the south, and routed three of the most experienced Ethiopian divisions.

The rebels say that the divisions were wiped out — 18,000 men being killed, wounded or taken, while about 50 tanks and 100 artillery pieces were captured. There is grim evidence of the slaughter. In a ravine outside Afabet, the mangled and charred remains of about 60 tanks and trucks caught in a rebel ambush have been pushed off the road by bulldozers.

The rebel army pushed on from Afabet to within 10 miles of Keren, and by May had established the horseshoe line around the city, Eritrea's third largest, which it hopes will eventually squeeze the Ethiopians out. The defeat forced the Ethiopians to withdraw from all of western Eritrea, including the towns of Tesseey, Barenti and Akordat, to avoid being cut off by Keren. The next five months will be critical, says Wadi Suhul.

Another rebel grouping, the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, now dominates the liberated areas, while the EPLA is the sole nationalist fighting force, having absorbed or eliminated its rivals. The efficiency of the Eritrean



A young Eritrean woman, left, patrolling the front line at Nakfa, which fell to the rebels in a crushing defeat for Ethiopian government forces. Like the other fighters shown above, also at Nakfa, she is a member of the Eritrean People's Liberation Front, which has consolidated its grip on "liberated" regions.

mountain fighters who go into combat with an AK47, a belt with ammunition and grenades, and a *fofa* — a multi-purpose cloak or blanket which can be twisted and wrapped round the waist.

The EPLA has no formal ranks, seniority, insignia, decorations or uniforms. There are two commanders for each unit, from platoon to division, but little evidence of formal discipline. The self-discipline is extraordinary.



munition for the heavy weapons are a continual problem.

The determination of its fighters is the main factor that has prevented Ethiopia, with 40 million people, from making a reality of the annexation of Eritrea, with a population of 3.5 million, that was announced in 1962. The move followed 10 years of federation with Ethiopia, imposed by the UN with Anglo-American backing, though most of the territory included by the Italians when they founded the colony of Eritrea in the 1880s, had never been under the regular control of Ethiopia. Eritrea is in the gloomy company of Namibia, Western Sahara and British Somaliland as the only key former African colonies that have failed to attain independence.

That determination has its cost. Thousands have died, and thousands more have been wounded. Wadi Suhul was not the only man with one eye we saw, and there are hundreds of men and women on crutches, often missing a leg. For many of the 130 at a clinic in Port Sudan, crutches were not enough. Most of the young men and women there are paralysed, and condemned to a wheelchair or bed for the rest of their lives.

The fighting is likely to go on for some time, however. The Ethiopians have only offered regional autonomy to the northern part of Eritrea, separating off the southern Danakil area and the port of Asseb, while the EPLF says that nothing short of total independence for the whole of Eritrea will do.

No Ethiopian government is likely to sign away its direct access to the sea to people it has been fighting for 27 years. Nor would the Soviet Union, with its bases off Massawa on the Dahlak islands, be likely to encourage them, even if President Gorbachev is pushing the Ethiopians to push a peaceful solution, as the Kremlin becomes increasingly weary of its wasteful, ineffective support to an unpopular regime.

Serb urges prison for agitators

From Dusan Trevisan, Belgrade

Mr Slobodan Milosevic, head of the Serbian Communist Party, called yesterday for the ringleaders of Albanian ethnic unrest to be jailed — a thinly veiled attack on party heads in the troubled Yugoslav region of Kosovo.

His latest outburst came as thousands of young Albanians resumed demonstrations in support of Communist chiefs who, under Serbian pressure, were forced to resign from the local party committee.

About 5,000 young Albanians, mainly school children, marched on Pristina, the regional capital, to protest against the recent resignations of Albanian party leaders.

They walked in pouring rain from towns up to 40 miles away to take part in protests which have been going on for the past four days, and which have been joined by tens of thousands of ethnic Albanians demonstrating against Serbian moves to limit the region's autonomy. Mr Milosevic has

been pressing for a purge of the Kosovo administration, accusing Albanian officials of tolerating "terror and genocide" allegedly conducted against local Serbs.

He told a party conference that young people who were the victims of indoctrination were serving prison sentences while the culprits were given free range.

Mr Milosevic said that Albanian youngsters in jail should be allowed to go home at once, and those "really responsible" for the "genocide and terror" conducted against the Serbian population should be imprisoned instead.

Mr Milosevic did not name the alleged leaders. But at a time when ethnic Albanians in the region are protesting so vociferously, it seems clear that his threat was aimed at some active officials of the region whom the Serbs have been accusing for months of tolerating harassment and discrimination. Serbian party

officials, including Mr Milosevic, have recently pressed for the removal of the Albanian leadership in the region. Miss Kacusa Jassari, the president of the regional party committee, and Mr Azem Vlasi, the most prominent Albanian politician, who now sits on the Yugoslav Central Committee, have been the main targets.

Both relinquished their posts on the Kosovo committee last week, triggering Albanian protests and bringing tens of thousands of Albanians into Pristina to demonstrate their support.

The protest continued for four successive days and heightened ethnic tension in the region, prompting federal leaders to appeal for calm and hurried emergency meetings.

In Kosovo, new demonstrations were expected after several thousand youths held a rally on Sunday issuing a warning that they would resume street protests if the two

Albanian leaders were not reinstated within the next few days.

An emergency meeting of the regional party leadership with officials from the federation and Serbia is due today, while leaders in Kosovo tried to dissuade students and school children from continuing protest action.

The Serbian party conference is taking place at a time when reforms of the economic and political systems are on the agenda throughout Yugoslavia and when, especially in the northern republics, leaders are saying bluntly that economic market-orientated reforms cannot succeed unless the party is democratized and alternative movements and groups are recognized.

But Mr Milosevic seems to be set on creating an authoritarian party with an authoritarian leadership in which there is no place for any dissidence.

Lithuanians protest over failure to challenge Moscow's authority

Moscow (AP) — Thousands of Lithuanians, chanting "Shame, shame!", jammed the centre of Vilnius, their capital, yesterday to protest against their legislature's refusal to declare the Soviet republic's autonomy from Moscow, residents said.

In Moscow, legislators from the Supreme Soviet, the national Parliament, have recommended changes in constitutional amendments that have touched off a furor in Lithuania and the other Baltic republics, Estonia and Latvia, because of limits that they place on local powers.

The amendments were proposed by President Gorbachev as the keystone of his political reform programme, which includes the creation of a more powerful presidency and a full-time national legislature.

The call by the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroika for a 10-minute protest at noon

halted traffic in the centre of Vilnius, and about 10,000 people rallied at Gediminas Square, said a movement spokeswoman, Miss Rita Dapkus. Mr Alvydas Medailinskas, the movement's acting secretary, addressed the crowd from a balcony and called for the removal of three members of Lithuania's Communist Party Central Committee, Miss Dapkus said by telephone.

One of the three, Mr Lionginas Sepety, presided over last Friday's session of the Lithuanian Supreme Soviet that refused to challenge the authority of the Kremlin by declaring the republic sovereign, as legislators in Estonia had done two days earlier.

"Sepety made many procedural mistakes at the session," said Miss Dapkus, an American of Lithuanian origin, who said that she had lived in the Baltic republic for

two years. "People made suggestions at the session and he refused to take them into account."

The crowd on Gediminas Square chanted "Geda, geda!", the Lithuanian word meaning "shame" to criticize the inaction of their republic's legislators, Miss Dapkus said.

Mr Medailinskas told the crowd that what happened on Friday "was detrimental not only to the (Lithuanian Perestroika) movement, but to all of Lithuania", she said. The grassroots movement has called for another meeting of Lithuania's Supreme Soviet.

Strike continues: A week-old general strike in Stepanakert, capital of the autonomous Soviet region of Nagorno-Karabakh in western Azerbaijan, was extended yesterday in support of demands for the enclave's transfer to the Armenian republic (AFP reports).

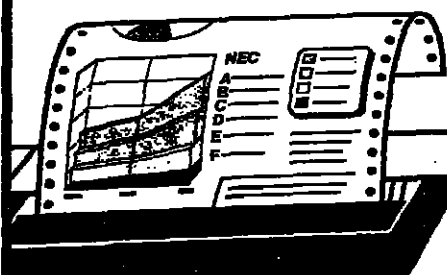
The workers in the mainly Armenian area are also calling for a lifting of a curfew imposed since September 21.

In Baku, an Armenian woman whose home overlooks the city centre said that a large crowd had been demonstrating round the clock for the past three days. She said police were nowhere to be seen and that the demonstrations were apparently stage-managed by the authorities.

An Azeri official said that 20,000 to 30,000 people had turned out over the past three days on Lenin Square, an esplanade on the banks of the Caspian Sea.

The demonstrations were a spontaneous popular initiative, and security forces had been deployed as a precaution in certain Armenian districts although there have been no slogans threatening that community, he said.

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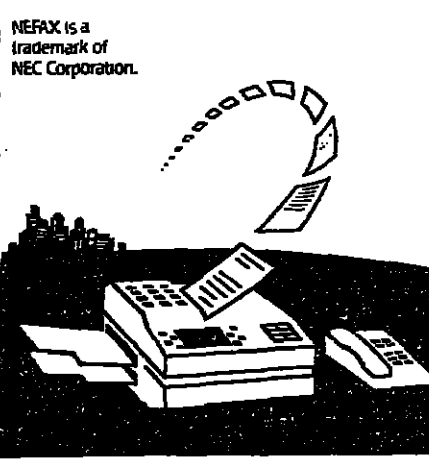
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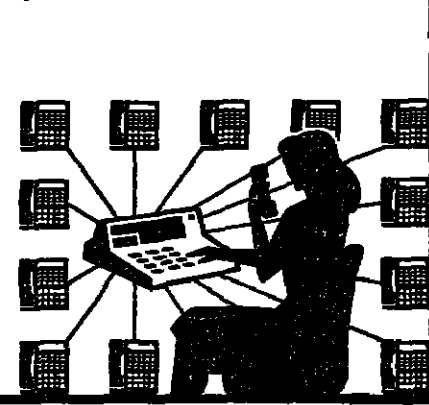
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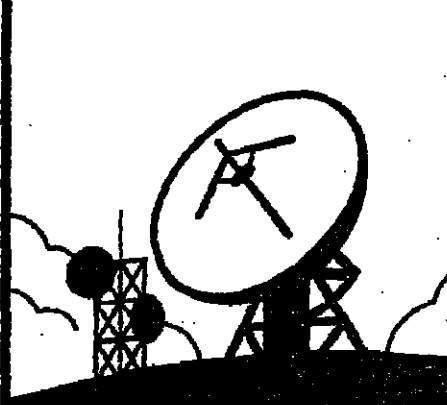
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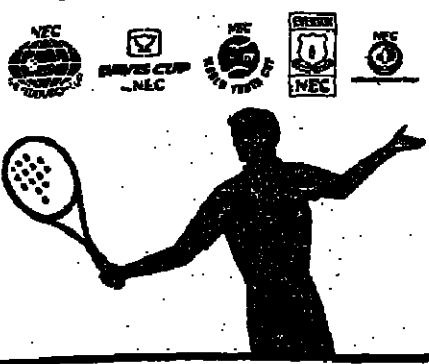
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SPECTRUM

Surge of student power?

Does last week's verbal attack on Norman Tebbit at North London Polytechnic signal the return of Sixties and Seventies-style unrest? Three former students recall the campus moods and attitudes of their decade

1960s: 'Head days when we knew everything'

From the Essex University library there were two views. The north-facing windows looked out on a Constable landscape dotted with trees and gently dropping down to a valley pool where we bathed naked on idyllic afternoons. The south-facing windows looked out on reinforced concrete pillars supporting a glass plaza, where the wind turned dust piles into streamers that weaved around the fountain always full of Coke tins.

West of the plaza was the laundrette, from where the smell of stale clothes and dried air gently wafted up into the hexagonal restaurant above. Beyond the laundrette was a forest of tower blocks. Every university has its architectural centre: Oxford has the Radcliffe Camera, Cambridge the Senate House, Paris the Place de la Sorbonne. We had a laundrette.

Not everybody who arrived at Essex with me in September 1968 was a left-wing revolutionary. Among the mature students in my Political Analysis class were three policemen who were not above testing the occasional illicit substance, and a retired arms dealer, infinitely less interesting or intelligent than the policemen which should have taught us something about the banality of evil; but that passed us by in those heady days.

Headly they were. Only four months earlier, according to already established myth, students had turned workers into revolutionaries and almost toppled the French state. The Left, who tended to be a majority in the social science and arts faculties but were a minority in the university as a whole, saw themselves as the French *enragés*, with the science and computer students as the masses, who the Left could

have turned into revolutionaries by provoking the authorities to act repressively.

We did not call them the masses, we called them Puddings, and they had no intention of becoming our cannon fodder. All they wanted to do was pass their exams. Twenty years on, with jobs in the City and Home Office, the Puddings are extracting a terrible vengeance.

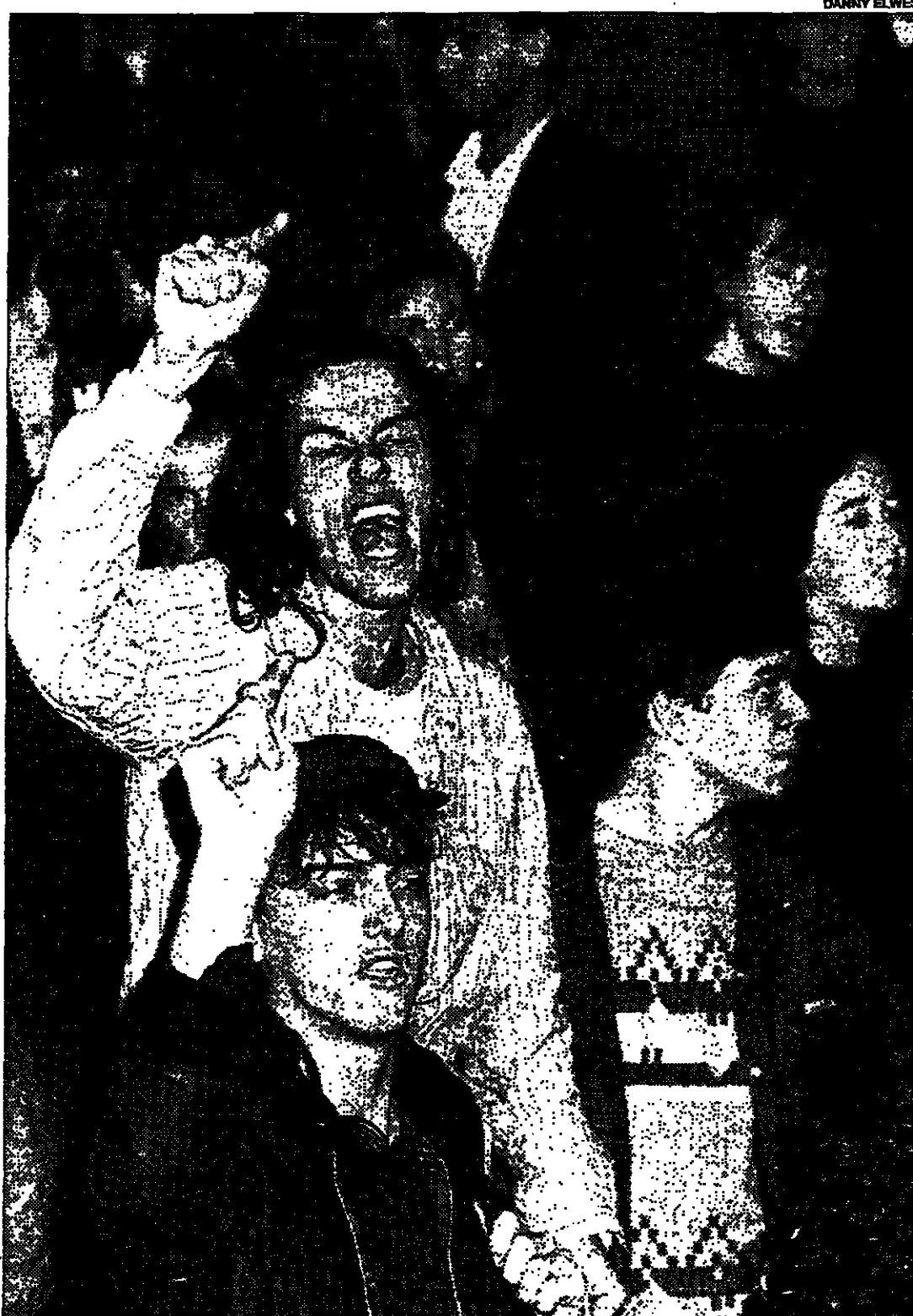
To anyone who saw university as more than a place to pass exams, the Left was the natural place to gravitate. From the library came serious academics, dedicated trade union research officers and a couple of hundred social workers. From the coffee bar came the Angry Brigade — Anna Mendelsohn looking beautiful, Hilary Creek looking serene, and Chris Bott, the only Essex acne-sufferer not in the computer studies department.

As for the professors and lecturers who had to tolerate our mixture of idealism, arrogance and silliness, they must have had the patience of saints. Did I learn anything from them? Apart from a love of Tolstoy, which a wonderful teacher called Angela Livingstone gave me and for which I will forever be grateful, not much. We knew everything already.

The arrogance and silliness have disappeared with age and mortgages; while the core ideas, that materialism does not bring happiness, that we are leaseholders not owners of the world's resources and that social justice is not unobtainable, have become conventionalized. Was it worth it? Yes, if only for the feeling that it was bliss to be alive — and for the Tolstoy.

Richard Trench

Richard Trench attended Essex University from 1968 to 1970. He is now a professional writer.



Return of the militant? The scene that greeted Norman Tebbit at North London Polytechnic last week

The spirit of the late Seventies at the London School of Economics was, for me, bottled up in an end-of-term "ball". The word conjures up images of taffeta and tiaras, whereas something evoking pogoing punks, hairy types doing phantom guitar riffs and oceans of spilt beer would be more apt.

Even though heavily sedated by alcohol, I can still recall the electricity of terror which pulsed through the partying students when the "ball", hitherto peaceful, was invaded by a phalanx of swastika-tattooed, spitting, fighting, British Movement skinheads.

They set upon amiable African accountancy students bopping with their white girlfriends and booted them to the floor. They surged into the main hall where Gary Glitter, that ageless trooper, was wowing us with, piquantly, "Do Yer Wanna Be In My Gang?" One of them even tried to clamber on stage. As he teetered on the rim

1970s: 'The moral passion was pure . . . we cared about the world'

of the stage, our silver-suited hero took a step back in tune with the beat and then socked the invader, sending him spinning back into the murk.

By the sharpest of ironies, our mixed bunch of Wagner-loving Stalinists, British-Pakistani accountants, Africans, wispy washy lefties and bespectacled Fabians were saved from the Nazi horde by the Metropolitan Police's Special Patrol Group. It proved an instructive lesson on authority and the role of state oppression in society.

The skinheads attacked the LSE because they saw it as a hotbed of "red scum", a Fleet Street-inspired myth which became more untrue with every day I spent there. The scarlet hammer and sickle which some student had painted on the wall of my hall of

residence in Bloomsbury was fading when I arrived in 1977, and no-one touched it up.

Revolutionary conversation, sit-ins, long hair and an easy contempt for State Fascism were still chic in my first term, but the Callaghan government was running out of steam and the engines of reaction were revving strongly. Fabian socialists, like me, found it difficult to justify the International Monetary Fund pay freeze. I vividly recall a brilliant and unanswerable Socialist Worker poster during the firemen's strike, showing a sooty-faced fireman holding up a little girl, with the caption "Pay the firemen".

The intellectual assault on socialism came from within LSE. Popper, Hayek, Friedman and even one of my government

1980s: 'We had no dreams to be shattered'

I arrived at Oxford in the year when unemployment reached three million, Margaret Thatcher was the most unpopular Prime Minister in living memory, and *Brideshead Revisited* had just been broadcast on television for the first time. Of those three facts, the latter seemed to affect my contemporaries most.

That is not to say, of course, that we all walked around carrying teddy bears (though some did). Life was much more banal. In three years, no one vomited through my window; I knew only one student who wore purple on a regular basis; and the only aristocracy I met were busy planning video documentaries about the Third World. Yet somehow the atmosphere, the sense of the university as a source of escape, lingered. This may have been because those of our generation understood that getting a job after university would be as difficult as getting into university had been in the first place. But for whatever reason, our state of mind was unmistakable. For the time being, we wanted to relax.

Of course, we couldn't. Mini-Thatcherites that we were, the scramble for curricula vitae began early. Many university institutions were inundated (and revived) by ambitious individuals known as "backs", sherry glasses in hand, Filofaxes at the ready. Few innocent. Although social activism has apparently increased in the last few years, during my time at Oxford even revolutionary leftists wanted to be president of the student union. But simultaneously, there was enormous self-consciousness of the cynicism of it all; and the healthy, if largely hypocritical, disdain for it.

This was, I think, the paradox of our generation: we were both sentimentally escapist and practically realistic. Usually the realism won, but the most archetypal moments of my time at university were those which combined the two: a slick production in a college cloister of a facile 1950s musical, *Salad Days*, a creative but lucrative college video news company, a romantic, jaundiced new magazine called

The Jericho Bugle, a self-mocking society with a thousand-odd members devoted to celebrating Winnie the Pooh; a self-consciously retro replay of the Oxford Union's 1933 King and Country debate. Others will remember other things: but what these phenomena had in common was both the need to escape and the sense to put it down on a CV anyway. We played it safe. But we played it well.

This weird combination helps explain the most popular career choices: the media (for those whose disillusionment made them more observers than doers); the City (for those whose ambition recommended one thing, money); and advertising (for those who wanted cynicism, creativity and money). Politics — both of the right and, less so, of the left — was deeply unpopular. The mood was apolitical. A Silly Party controlled the student union for a year. The arts boomed. Sport regained a little of their credibility. We were more likely to be concerned with sex than with socialism.

Looking back, it occurs to me that we were probably the most fundamentally un-illusioned generation since the war. We weren't even idealistic enough to be disillusioned. We had no dreams to be shattered. Our half-dreams, such as they were, were borrowed and bourgeois. This may sound depressing, and in a way it was. To be young and lacking in high-minded ideals was not the happiest of fates. But the abandonment of ideology had its consolations: a revival of private life; a more diligent, if more modest, creativity; a regained sense of humour; a sense of occasional irresponsibility, made all the more enjoyable for the safety net we had carefully constructed beneath. And perhaps, also, the sum of these things: a sense of our own unimportance. There are worse things to be known for.

Andrew Sullivan

Andrew Sullivan attended Oxford University from 1981 to 1984, and was president of the Oxford Union in 1983. He is now associate editor of *The New Republic* in Washington DC.

good style guru when we saw one. Bob Elms wrote about punk rock, had short hair and hung around with a crowd who went *en bloc* into the lucrative rock business. We long-hairs looked askance at their short hair and dubbed them "the Nazis", which was unfair. The conflicting tug of fashion and loyalties was sometimes heart-breaking.

It is easy to sneer at the unshaven idealism of that time. Yet there were moments of drama that are etched in the mind: like the day when an anti-apartheid student, weak from a seven-day hunger strike against the school's investment policy, fainted in the middle of a student union meeting. The moral passion of that moment was pure, unforgettable, deeply affecting. We cared about the world.

John Sweeney

John Sweeney attended the London School of Economics in 1977-80. He is a freelance writer and journalist.

February 1967 Porter at London School of Economics died when students tried to storm locked hall.
March 1967 LSE students barricaded themselves in.
May 1968 Sorbonne students in Paris overturned cars and buses as riot police hurled tear gas.
October 1968 Students occupied LSE during Vietnam protest marches.
May 1970 Four students shot dead by National Guard at Kent State University, Ohio during Vietnam protest.
October 1972 Queen leared by Stirling University students shouting "Go home you Hun".
November 1972 Two students shot dead during demo at Baton Rouge, Southern University, Louisiana.
November 1973 Three-week occupation of Essex University.

CALENDAR OF UNREST

May 1973 Prof Hans Eysenck, psychologist, attacked by LSE students.
February 1974 Eight students arrested after sit-in at Indian Institute in Oxford.
March 1974 Fifteen Essex University students arrested after 14-day blockade.
April 1974 500 students invaded Essex University campus.
June 1974 Warwick University student Kevin Gately died during battle of Red Lion Square.
November 1974 Director of North London Polytechnic given black eye in fracas with 60 militant students.
March 1975 Sit-in at Lancaster University ended by police.
June 1975 Policeman

assaulted and senior dons kicked by Cambridge students.
1976 Students in Britain occupied 40 universities, polytechnics and teacher training colleges in campaign over teaching jobs crisis.
February 1977 Students heckled Sir Keith Joseph at Essex University.
July 1977 Five students from Essex University expelled, 10 suspended for series of occupations.
May 1978 Smoke and flour bombs thrown at Nicholas Winterton, Conservative MP, at Essex University.
December 1978 Firemen turned hoses on rioting Oxford University students.
March 1984 Eggs hurled at Cecil Parkinson at Essex

University and tomatoes thrown at Margaret Thatcher at Warwick University.
November 1984 10,000 students marched on Westminster in protest at grant cuts.
November 1985 David Waddington, Home Office minister, called for expulsions after he was punched and spat on at Manchester University.
February 1988 10,000 students marched in London against Government's Education Reform Bill.
June 1988 Thousands of students in Seoul battled with riot police in support of North Korea's demand to co-host Olympic Games.
November 1988 Norman Tebbit taunted at North London Polytechnic by students protesting against proposed student loans

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Sandboys' sadder side

Our proverbs about happiness are sadly cynical. If you would be happy for a week take a wife; if you would be happy for a month kill a pig; if you would be happy all your life plant a garden. Call no man happy till he dies. The other day somebody said of that shrinking violet Edwina Currie that, whatever the surrounding gloom, she always seems as happy as a sandgirl. Until then I took it that these sandboys and sandgirls who are proverbially happy were children on summer holiday on the beach, building sandcastles and fortifications to keep the tide back where Canute failed, so creating another misunderstood proverb. The truth is stranger and darker, as C.H. Rolph, eminent and endearing wordsmith and policeman, wrote to point out.

The flaw is anachronism. The seaside holiday was started by the Prince Regent, who hoped that sea water and sea air might cure the swellings of the glands in his neck. He was followed by the smart, silly set. Before that the seaside had been regarded as marginal and impoverished places, to be avoided by all except fishermen, mariners, and others who had business

NEW WORDS FOR OLD

We're conducting a Happiness Survey!

horse or other beast bearing or drawing burden", and went "from door to door selling goods, wares or merchandise". Your sandboy shovelled up sand, but as time went on from a railway goods yard, loaded it in sandbags on to a poor old donkey, and hawked it around the streets. Householders bought sand for their gardens, publicans to strewn on their floors, and builders to mix in cement.

Sandboys acquired their proverbial reputation for happiness not because they enjoyed their work, but because they got drunk immediately, or were supposed to by their customers, on the money they earned. Here is supporting evidence from *The Old Curiosity Shop*, which Dickens published in 1840: "The Jolly Sandboys was a small roadside inn, with a sign representing three Sandboys increasing their jollity."

Sandboys are older and sadder than I supposed. Proverbs have longer roots than many plants and weeds in the garden of language. I shall look at Mrs Currie's manicure with increased suspicion in future.

Philip Howard

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FASHION by Liz Smith

Purl one, knit one, pearl one...

Top designers are spraying gems over their knitwear. Try some do-it-yourself beading for the same opulent effect — but don't be timid

The message should be clear. It is shouted out in foot-deep symbols on the latest designer clothes, punched through in giant baubles, picked out in the opulent threads of the season's style. Glorious excess is alive in fashion once more. In case you had not noticed the signals, this winter's simplest sweaters come encrusted with strands of gems stitched in as an intrinsic part of the whole ensemble.

The dark backcloth of an evening top is lit up like a chandelier at Saint Laurent, with rows of crystal lozenge drops. Lagerfeld replaces the bobbles on a simple Aran cardigan with pearls at Chanel. Lacroix studs a jacket with a medieval cross as a breastplate from throat to waist. Anything too minsy looks as if it is contriving for an over-gentle effect. Make that a double helping of rhinestones and beads.

Given the impact achieved, it seemed a good idea to sort

out some do-it-yourself extravaganzas. Angela King, a knitwear designer whose latest book of patterns, *Soft Touches*, includes one or two beaded designs, was commissioned to translate the current lush look in fashion into three easy-to-knit and gem-encrusted sweaters that you should be able to finish in time for Christmas.

"Beading is easy, but do not attempt it with an ordinary needle," she warns. To stitch on beads and jewels, a very fine, long needle and transparent nylon thread (available in 150-yard spools from Dickens & Jones, Regent Street, London W1, and major stores) should be used. Fifties jewelled sweaters were lined in silk to support the beading. But the double knitting wool used for the sweaters shown here is sturdy enough to take the weight of our beads and gems.

A *trompe-l'œil* necklace of topaz and emeralds festoons the front of one slender roll-necked style. A chunky Maltese cross is centred on a simple thick turtle neck sweater. The most complicated to knit, a bobbled and cabled Aran sweater, is the simplest to decorate, with pearls stitched into the roll-neck collar. But you could decorate an Aran sweater that you already own and carry on stitching pearls at random. You can also sew tiny twinkling beads of rhinestone on to a ruffle of net and attach the spangled frill to a cashmere crew-neck jersey or cardigan.

For those who do not have the time to cast on, there are plenty of ready bejewelled sweaters to buy. Jeffrey Rogers's V-backed black sweater, sequinned around the collar, costs £29.99 at Principles, Fenwick, Harrods and Harvey Nichols. At the other end of the price range, Krizia's beaded sweaters are priced at about £800 at Harvey Nichols. Edina Ronay stitches pewter beads on to her folkie, multi-coloured Fair Isle jerseys at £199. Tiny beads appear as polka-dots on Adrienne Vittadini's knitted tops at £370. Silver beads glint around the neckline of Gaultier's sweaters at £495.

Harrods' extensive piles of jewelled knitwear run from simple hearts-and-stars sequinned Outlander sweaters at £60 or its own-label off-the-shoulder black or white angora tops with rows of sequins around the neckline at £75, up to Didier Ronsard's "lipstick" and "alphabet" beaded sweaters at about £200. Patrick Kelly this season sewed giant pearls on to black sweater dresses. Sonia Rykiel, as always, scatters beads across her sleek jerseys and edges a crossover top in rhinestone.

Angela King plans to hold a series of two-day knitting seminars next year. For details, send a SAE to Angela King, 12 Maryon Mews, London NW3.

Soft Touches, by Angela King (Collins Willow, £12.95)

GLITTER GALORE
The bejewelled look as interpreted by two of the top winter collections



Alastair Blair: *trompe-l'œil* necklaces bedeck a dress



Chanel: pearls stitched on to an Aran cardigan



ABOVE: *Trompe-l'œil* bead necklace on rust longline sweater, to knit in Emu Superwash Double Knit wool, 15/50g balls, £1.39 each. For free pattern send large SAE to The Times Pattern, Consumer Services, Emu Woods, Leeds Road, Bradford BD10 9TE. Ruby and garnet glass and gift rope earrings, £48; rhinestone studded cuff, £68; charm bracelet, £98; all Butler & Wilson, 20 South Molton Street, W1 and branches. Brass bangles, £25 each, Mangrove, 165 Draycott Avenue SW3; 20a Kensington Church Walk, W8. Scarf tied as sarong, from selection at Liberty, Regent Street, W1

Quantities given are for size 34 inch sweaters. Beads and gemstones from Ellis and Farrier, 20 Princes Street, London W1 (mail order 0404 715808). Photographs by JOHN BISHOP

Hair and make-up by Wendy Sudd for Schumi



FAR LEFT: Pearl-bobbled roll-neck Aran sweater, to knit in Jaeger Matchmaker Double

Knitting, 15/50g balls, £1.49 each. Dickens & Jones; Liberty; Rios Woods, Holborn, WC1; Harrods; House of Fraser nationwide. For free pattern send large SAE to The Times/Jaeger Handknit International, PO Box 10, Alton, Scotland (tel 0259 723 431). Ropes of mock pearls, £46 each; earrings, £23; Butler & Wilson

LEFT: Maltese cross worked in garnet and pink beads on grey cable-knit jumper, to knit in

Pingouin Comfort, 15/50g balls, £1.19 each. For free pattern, yarn stockists, send large SAE to Pingouin/Times Pattern, Station House, 81-83 Fulham High Street, SW6 3JW

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Following the scent

Cher calls hers Uninhibited. Baryshnikov's is simply Misha. Even Florence Griffith Joyner is conjuring with a name for the aura she is creating for those in the fast track.

In the case of a chic shop (Giorgio) or an up-market jewellery emporium (Tiffany, Boucheron), the heady smell of power and money can be distilled into a bottle of scent that sells for less than the price of a designer dress.

The 1988 boom in new fragrances includes exclusive scents from two of London's more discreet fashion shops.

Showing off the vintage class

Sassie Faux, who clothes a large chunk of London's female executives at her two Wardrobe shops, has given them what she describes as "the sweet smell of success".

Siera, a blend of bergamot and mandarin oils with peppery Russian coriander, priced from £29.95 for a 60ml eau de parfum spray, is available from Wardrobe, 17 Chiltern Street, W1, and 3 Grosvenor Street, W1.

Knitting's new art pattern

Knitting as an art form can be seen at the Kaffe Fassett exhibition at the Victoria & Albert Museum until the end of January. The painter's first design, inspired by textiles and ceramics in the museum, is a colourful shawl-collared jacket he calls Turkish Carnation. One of the several Fassett patterns available as a Rowan knitting kit, priced £69.95, it is the prize in a weekly draw held throughout the exhibition. An entry card for the draw can be picked up at any Rowan Wool stockist.

And while we're on the subject... the Handknitting Guild, established this year, provides assistance, patterns and yarns from 20 major spinners. It is at 59-61 Union Street, Broadmead, Bristol BS1 2DU (telephone 0272 250650).

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TIMES DIARY

DAVID WALKER

Sir Peter Newsam, ex-Ilea, ex-CRE is now ex-ACC. Newsam is leaving the Association of County Councils after only a brief stay, to become principal of the University of London Institute of Education. After a career from Whitehall to Yorkshire thence to County Hall and the Inner London Education Authority, Newsam moved through the liberal institutions to become chief executive of the Commission for Racial Equality. He looked set to end his administrative days with the counties and his going is a great blow. Whispers say the Government would abolish them, if Mrs Thatcher were re-elected.

Mike Devereau has taken over as acting director-general of the Central Office of Information now that it looks as if Neville Taylor will be prevented by illness from returning to his desk. The Col d-g is also head of information in Whitehall and ultimately the person paid to worry about broken tape-recorders and other manifestations of professionalism by government press officers.

In theory it is also he who adjudicates on whether government advertising crosses the boundary between public information and party propaganda. But Col, tucked out of sight in an unfashionable part of Lambeth, has been pretty quiet of late.

Devereau is a safe pair of hands but, sooner or later, there will be a new appointment. It used to be the peak of the press officer's career, paying more than any other information job. But that was before Bernard Ingham, who has redefined power relations somewhat. When and if he or Mrs Thatcher moves on, knighthoods, professorships or the City beckon him, certainly not Col.

It is difficult to see Romola Christopherson, the robust director of information at health who is another potential candidate, wanting to leave the thick of politics for an office job. Eyes have turned to Queen Anne's Gate where Douglas Hurd's information director, Brian Mower, has all the Whitehall virtues.

Neville Taylor himself came to Col from one of the biggest Whitehall press outfits, the MoD, but Hugh Colver, in the top job there, looks settled, especially now the appeal of the Col post has been diminished by the man from Number Ten.

The perennial problem facing junior ministers, especially those who have held unimpeachable posts without being considered for a leg up, is how to get their name in lights. John Butcher (was at DTI, now at Education) faced the problem recently when he had to make a speech to the Girls' Schools' Association, not generally a front page body. Rereading his draft speech last week, Butcher realized he was probably not going to make it. Spice was needed, so, partly of the family he binged, Butcher wrote in those paragraphs reminding girls how many of them would end in the divorce courts and so have to return to work to support themselves. Hence (the subject of the speech) they needed skills to fall back on. "I think he is going to become our Edwina Currie," an Education Department official said proudly.

Call it *chuzpah*. The London boroughs are required, as part of their preparation for taking over Ilea schools, to submit lists of educational buildings within their patches, which they can then claim. There, on page 70 of Lambeth's list, stands a Norwood junior school and an adult education institute, is that prime educational property... County Hall. Full marks for effort.

BARRY FANTONI



Gavin threw down the green gamelut and got done for a litter offence

Dickens would have loved it... an entire posse of High Court judges led by McGarry LJ, en route for a recent closed-doors seminar at that estimable Victorian institution, the Charities Commission. The cream of Chancery was attending on Robin Guthrie, the new live-wire commissioner. He had rounded up the judges, officials from the Lord Chancellor's Department, Home Office and other Whitehall corners for a think-in about the charities white paper that's in the offing. He got a cool reception, however, for some new-fangled ideas of his about an issue Dickens (see *Bleak House*) knew well: re-defining what charity actually is. Leave it to the judges, he was firmly told.

Dickens would not have loved it... shutting the national archives behind a pay barrier. Michael Roper, the new keeper of the Public Record Office, has a nightmare about discussions taking place in offices not a million miles from the Treasury prompted by a bright Thatcherite spark who has been looking at the increasing use of the Public Record Office by members of the public and has concluded they ought to pay. Charges for consulting the nation's archives are some way off but the prospect is on the horizon. The irony is that greater use of the PRO is a reflection of the integrity of family life (in which the Government is supposed to believe). Children and grand-children want to read service records, flight logs and the minutiae of official records that tell them something about relative. The people who come to the PRO are no longer simply interested in family trees.

The prospect of an Anglo-French nuclear stand-off missile for the Royal Air Force looks remote. It was first mooted in 1986 and studied at some length by Ministry of Defence officials at meetings in London and Paris, and it raised, for the first time, the possibility of Britain procuring a nuclear weapon without the involvement of the Americans.

However, it now seems certain that the Government will decide next year to purchase an American missile off the shelf, the Sram II, which is under development at Boeing, to replace the present free fall WE177 nuclear bomb carried on the RAF Tornado. Yet the Anglo-French missile study has contributed significantly to a warming of relations between the two countries in the whole defence field.

Tomorrow British and French officials and defence industry representatives meet for the third time in 15 months to discuss co-operation in the procurement of conventional military equipment. Two conferences have already been held on land and sea systems. This time it is air force equipment. The conferences have helped

Michael Evans gives a progress report on Anglo-French military co-operation

The defence entente grows

to break down some of the historical barriers that have made Britain and France fierce competitors in the defence equipment market. The two countries together spend 83 per cent of the total amount of money allocated to military research and development by all Nato members in Europe. This means that key research projects into equipment such as torpedos, mines, submarine systems and sonars are being duplicated.

Though there is little chance of removing all the overlapping, the French now realize they cannot afford to carry on in this way. Britain is the obvious ally, since each has the same military requirements, nuclear and conventional, and each has a similar military industry. There was considerable mutual suspicion. But when the first two equip-

ment conferences were held, one in London the other in Paris, British officials could hardly believe their eyes when French admirals and generals stood up and outlined their equipment requirements and suggested possible areas where British companies could play a part.

The Anglo-French experience is important, not merely to reduce research and development costs, but to help create a European armaments common market, in which competition, joint ventures and the formation of multinational consortia can be developed.

Under Article 22 of the Treaty of Rome, defence equipment remains outside Common Market trade regulations. So when all the trade barriers are removed in 1992, defence will still be excluded. But since many of the main defence companies also

have a large civil business, which will be covered by the 1992 regulations, it is in everyone's interest that there should be common rules for defence equipment as well. Although this week's conference will deal strictly with conventional equipment, it is the nuclear side that offers the most fascinating possibilities.

The problem with the missile proposal was that France's existing ASMP weapon built by Aerospatiale, on which it would have been based, has insufficient range (186 miles) to meet either the RAF's requirements or those of General John Galvin, Nato's supreme allied commander in Europe, who has set out his guidelines for future nuclear weapon deployment. It is also 1970s technology, and since the RAF wants a new missile in about 10 years' time, it will be outdated. Whereas the American Sram

II which has now been selected for the US Air Force and is under development, will have an acceptable range of 250-300 miles. Ministry of Defence officials will spend next year examining the US missile before the Government announces its decision by the end of 1989.

But the Ministry of Defence was very impressed by the ASMP, a wingless cruise missile powered by an excellent ram-jet propulsion system which first entered service in 1986. The French also have a longer term weapon system called AMINS, which, though a paper missile today, could be an option for the British next century once Sram II has run its course. Ministry of Defence officials have confirmed that they are very anxious to "keep alongside" the French as their missile programme develops. The French have agreed.

The closer nuclear ties between Britain and France have survived the change in government in Paris. Although the Defence Secretary, George Younger, and his French counterpart, Andre Giraud, in the previous administration developed a particularly warm relationship, there are no signs of changing attitudes from Giraud's successor, Jean-Pierre Chevènement.

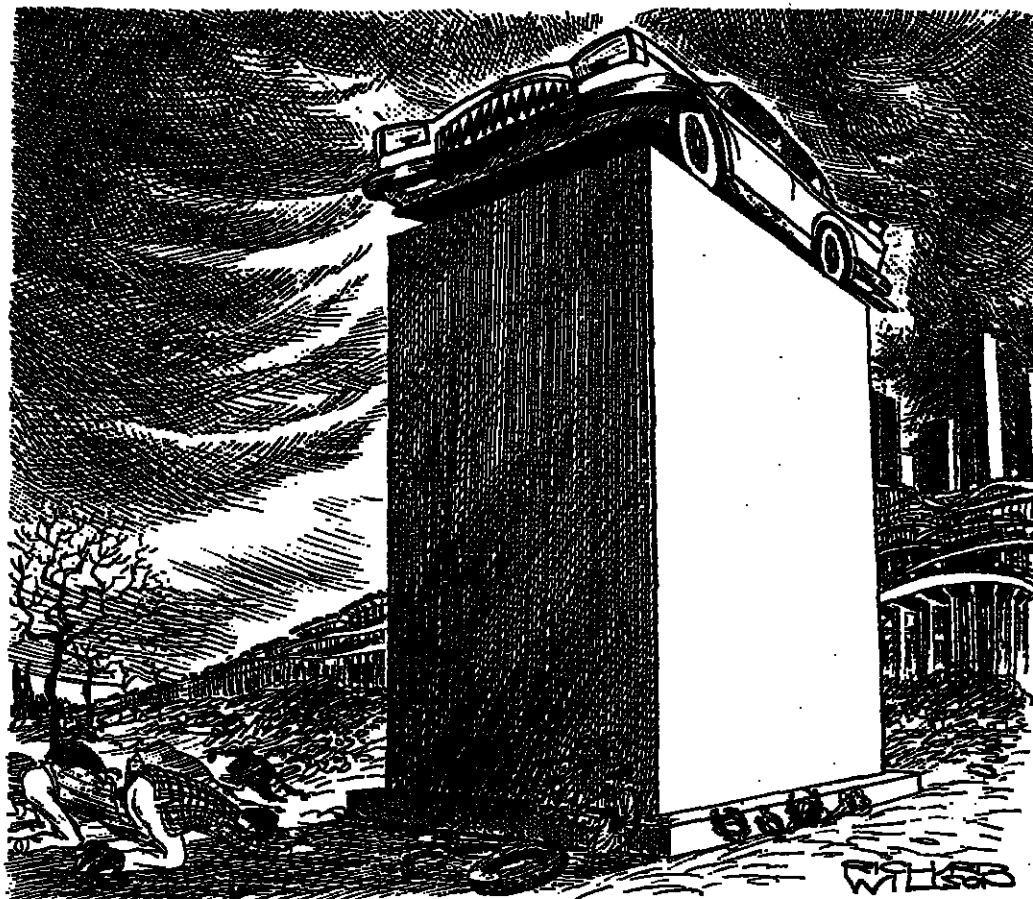
So it seems likely that in the next few years the French and British governments could reach agreement on the deployment and targeting policies of their respective ballistic missile submarines. Unlike the French nuclear deterrent, the British Polaris submarine force is tied with Nato's targeting strategy.

The first step, already under discussion, will be to agree on what is called "water space management" — each country telling the other where their strategic submarines are patrolling to avoid a conflict of interest.

The second, and politically more difficult, will be to exchange information on targets to ensure that they are not aiming their missiles at the same places.

Colin Buchanan

Jam today and tomorrow



Proposals of this kind once abandoned are almost impossible to reinstate.

Twenty-five years ago we said it would be impossible to cope with all future demands for the use of motor vehicles in urban areas. This is even more applicable now, and it would be well for the Government to admit it openly. We said a considerable amount of additional road space would be needed for the circulation of essential traffic and for environmental reasons. Twenty years ago there were good chances that this extra space could be planned for and provided. But now those chances have gone, and I doubt whether they can be revived.

We said there was no escaping the need for vastly improved public transport, almost certainly subsidized. But the present Government has thrown urban transport over to market forces. I await the results with interest, but even now one result,

as far as buses are concerned, is chaos. Sometimes I stand at Carfax in the middle of Oxford and marvel how any city in the civilized world could have got itself into such a mess.

The idea of positive restraints on cars in towns seems to go against the present Government's "let the people free" policy. Parking control has not been very effective, indeed in some cases more parking space has been provided in central areas than the approach roads can accommodate. Why does a government so keen on market forces not throw in road space as a marketable commodity? Road pricing is lurking in the wings ready to take the stage as the most effective method of restraint.

We said the damage caused by traffic in towns — accidents, noise, pollution, vibration, visual intrusions, etc. — amounted to a major social problem. I am sure we were right, but we did not foresee the almost total

rejection of this plea by a public which cannot even keep its towns clean. I do not claim to have heard anybody say "To hell with the environment" but there is certainly widespread indifference and a general readiness to trade the environment off against motorized mobility. We did not foresee the advent of the juggernauts. The damage these infernal machines have done to the environment beggars description.

With a considerable increase in car ownership still ahead, I see little hope of realizing the vision we had when writing *Traffic in Towns* — the vision that, given the will and stable policies pursued over the years, it would be possible to live with a good deal of traffic in towns, though certainly not all that might be demanded, and still retain civilized urban environments.

With the vision gone, what else is there except to muddle on in the good old British way? Well

it may be muddling on from our point of view, but there is one seemingly irresistible force driving us on like a flock of sheep in a country lane with a wolf behind: the wolf is the motor vehicle.

Between the wars, the motor showed itself as the arch scatterer of urban development — the urban sprawl of the Twenties and Thirties. For 30 years after the last war strenuous efforts were made to prevent further sprawl, but now the "monster we love so dearly" is on the rampage again, and not without Government assistance.

Everywhere I go I see towns turning themselves inside out with massive growth of out-of-town shopping centres simply for the parking space. This, coupled with the surplus of agricultural land, is leading us inexorably into urban sprawl. So the problems of traffic in towns may be solved in quite a different way from anything we visualized in our report, but — mark my words — God help the English countryside as it has been known and loved for centuries.

Come what may, one so far neglected message from *Traffic in Towns* becomes more pertinent every day. We wrote: "... [traffic] conditions as they are going to develop in this island will demand an almost heroic act of self-discipline from the public. Motor manufacturers, parents and teachers will have major parts to play, but the main burden of responsibility will rest with drivers".

Calming down the circulation of vehicles throughout the road system would bring many benefits — fewer accidents, easier traffic flows, and environmental gains. Whether more restraints and restrictions would help is open to discussion, but what cannot be in dispute is that greatly improved driver behaviour is the key. This, in turn, suggests a radical overhaul of the present ramshackle system of driver training and licensing which is manifestly neglectful of the social responsibilities involved in driving.

This is an abridged version of a paper Sir Colin Buchanan delivered recently at Bath University.

Commentary • TIM CONGDON

Some saving graces

Among the many shared anxieties of the Thatcher government and the new Bush administration, one of the most topical is that the British and American people suffer from innate financial profligacy.

The evidence seems to be that both nations are woefully reluctant to save. Last year the personal savings ratio in the US was 3.9 per cent and in Britain 5.6 per cent, whereas in Japan it was 16.6 per cent, in France 13 per cent and in West Germany 12.2 per cent. There is a definite contrast between the English-speaking nations and the rest of the industrial world.

The low savings ratios in the English-speaking nations have been seen as the main culprit for their large external payments deficits. Different savings behaviour can therefore be identified as an important reason for continuing turbulence in the foreign exchange markets.

No wonder that at international financial gatherings the Germans and the Japanese have begun to point an accusatory finger at the inadequacy of American personal savings. Now that the US budget deficit (when expressed as a share of national product) is not much different from international norms, the surplus nations need to open a new flank of criticism.

There is an unspoken theme in international discussion that people whose first language is English are inherently more financially feckless than their Teutonic and Oriental counterparts, almost as if a shared appreciation of Shakespeare and apple pie were responsible for a wider circulation of credit cards.

There is also an implicit belief that savings are virtuous and to be increased, while consumption is wicked and should be reduced.

The truth is more complex. Much of the contrast between personal savings in the English-speaking countries and other industrial nations is a statistical illusion. It reflects markedly different patterns of company finance. When allowance is made for these institutional differences, the savings gap between the main industrial nations narrows significantly.

American and British companies have traditionally relied heavily on equity finance from shareholders and tried to avoid using banks for long-term funds. They can be paid to banks to cover interest, distributed to shareholders as dividends, or retained in the business. In Britain today, retentions are much larger than either interest payments or dividends. In 1987 they amounted to almost £46 billion, out of total trading profits by industrial and commercial companies of £69 billion.

There is a temptation to say that, because funds have been retained, they "belong to companies" and not to shareholders. This line of thought is a hallucination. Properly considered, companies are legal fictions. They have no autonomous personality and exist to serve the interests of their shareholders. Companies do not belong to themselves, but to people.

Retained profits are devoted mostly to investment in plant, equipment and buildings, and

are therefore part of a nation's savings. It would be reasonable, in a logically organized set of national accounts, to allocate the £46 billion of corporate retentions to personal savings. However, the statistical convention is to attribute retentions to the impersonal "company sector" and not to the undoubtedly real "personal sector". Since £46 billion is equivalent to more than 10 per cent of gross national product, its reclassification to persons would add more than 10 per cent to the savings ratio.

As a result, that ratio would jump to about 16 per cent in Britain. A similar adjustment would also be needed in the US where, again, corporate retentions are extremely large as a share of national product. The American savings ratio would become about 15 per cent. These numbers look much closer to the international averages.

But there is the obvious counter-argument that retentions could also be reclassified in Japan and Europe. If it had the same effect as in the US and Britain, the savings gap between the English-speaking nations and other industrial countries would be unaffected.

But here we come to the key point. Because of the very different way companies finance themselves in Japan and Europe, corporate retentions are much lower as a share of profits and national product than in the US and Britain. In Japan and Europe companies have tended to have a small base of equity capital and bank finance has been the principal source of long-term capital. A higher proportion of trading profits is

therefore needed to pay interest on bank debt, while the banks dominate the provision of funds for investment. Since bank deposits are held by persons, the indirect result of the system is that much more of company profits and investment ends up being categorized with the personal sector than in the English-speaking world.

These are just statistical tricks. The Europeans and the Japanese require their companies to pay out bank interest which comes into the hands of "persons", who then leave the money with the banks, who then lend it out for industrial investment; the Americans and British expect companies to keep the bulk of profits in their own hands, where the funds are treated as "retentions", which again become available to finance industrial investment. The essence of the matter is the same in both cases. It is only labels and definitions which are different.

The misfortune of the English-speaking nations is that their way of structuring company finances makes their "personal sectors" appear spendthrift and improvident, and encourages all sorts of silly remarks about their general inadequacy compared to the Japanese and the Germans.

The underlying realities of business and finance are remarkably similar all over the world. Although there is much wrong with the American and British economies, and even perhaps with Anglo-Saxon patterns of corporate finance, Mrs Thatcher and Mr Bush should not feel any particular inferiority complex about their nations' low personal savings ratios.

NOV 22

ON THIS DAY

1923

Fights such as this did little to improve the image of heavy-weight boxing, dominance of which had since the end of the First World War passed to the Americans.

ANOTHER HEAVY-WEIGHT FIASCO.

Very little of the boxing at the Royal Albert Hall, last evening, was worthy of the occasion, and, once again, one has to record an ignominious ending to a fight between heavy-weights of the presumably championship class. Prince Henry was present and, after the contest between Harry Mason, the British Light-weight Champion, and Ernie Rice, a former holder of the title, had been awarded to the former on points, his Royal Highness stepped into the ring to make an appeal to the large crowd to support a fund designed to save Nelson's flagship, the Victory, for the nation... A little later, Frank Goddard and Jack Bloomfield appeared on the scene.

The object of this particular match, no doubt, was to decide who should step into the shoes of Joe Beckett and so qualify for the British Heavy-weight Championship and — who knows? — a further honour — a fight with that wrecker of British boxing hopes, Georges Carpentier. As, however, the winner was a hopelessly beaten man when the loser was disqualified halfway through the second round for hitting his man when he was still down, the object cannot be said to have been achieved. Goddard, it may be added, was the winner, and one hopes he will not have the hardihood to claim a title for which he is even less suited than was the unfortunate Beckett. Bloomfield, for his part, lost his

head rather than the contest and had only to thank himself for the misfortune. The referee, Mr. Palmer, had no option but to disqualify Bloomfield...

The fight itself scarcely warrants a description; its only interest lay in its farcical ending. Goddard, who surely must have been studying the methods of Ernie Rice, covered up and walked into his man at the start; he thereby gained a certain amount of ground but little advantage. Bloomfield easily blocked all his cramped blows, and was hitting back uncomfortably hard when Goddard suddenly reared him off his feet and half fell on top of him. This little misadventure pleased neither boxer, and Goddard hit out at his man while the referee still was acting the part of separator.

This incident clearly had annoyed Bloomfield, for all the handshakes that followed it. The second round, had lasted only a few seconds when Goddard, as cumbersome and ill-balanced as ever, walked into a well-timed right that sent him reeling across the ring and, then, down for a count of six. Bloomfield furiously waved the referee aside and then went in to finish Goddard off there and then, but somehow the latter struggled to his feet and clucked until he had regained some of his wits. The men, closely locked, struggled across the ring, then out into the centre, and, then, once more into the ropes. Goddard then attempted to fight himself free, dropped his guard, and met another right. He fell through the ropes, on to his knees, with his back to Bloomfield. Obviously dazed, he just managed to crawl back again, but was still down and being counted out when Bloomfield sprang in and struck him on the face. This time, for all the absurdity of the situation, the referee had to assist himself and to award the fight to Goddard — a very badly beaten man at the time.

THE ARTS

TELEVISION

Making sense

Not a moment too soon, architecture and the environment are becoming major television issues, and in the wake of a famous 40 year-old's contribution to *Omnibus* there have been even more thoughtful programmes on these questions. Last night's *Cher Fit to Live In* (Channel 4) provided vivid examples of local people taking over decision-making on architecture and forcing authorities to provide the buildings they wanted.

In the 19th century, Liverpool was the most unhealthy town in England, but the recent forced movement of inner-city dwellers to new housing estates, destroying the rows of old back-to-backs, has created even more severe problems for social cohesion. Four generations of the Kelly family had lived in close proximity and wanted to go on doing so. They instigated their own housing co-operative and now manage the estate of small houses and gardens which has been built.

In run-down Speke, a dismal testament to the housing policies of the Sixties, another group of active mothers got together to demand a new health centre for the area. In spite of opposition, not only from the Health Authority but even from local doctors, they got what they wanted: the result, apart from an imminent new building, is a highly politicized new group of activists.

In his *Visions of Britain*, on Sunday night, Richard Rogers produced a solid modernist counterblast to the twee, nostalgic ramblings of Quinlan Terry the previous week, showing contemporary craftsmanship and architectural design which can produce buildings which are stunningly effective, flexible and eloquent. The problem has always been the level on which such craftsmanship and imagination is allowed to operate by financial brief and planning procedure: if well designed, even tower blocks work.

William Holmes

John Russell Taylor on the work of artists killed in the First World War and two near contemporaries who survived it

Generation that was lost

GALLERIES

The Fallen
Museum of Modern Art,
Oxford

Maurice Lambert
Belgrave

Henryk Gotlib
Boundary

It is not so easy as one might suppose to separate the extrinsic from the intrinsic, in the effect art can have on us. I asked a friend about *The Fallen*, the exhibition which is part of the current Armistice Festival, and is at the Museum of Modern Art, Oxford, until January 15. "Very depressing" was the reply. "Yes, but is it any good?" "Oh yes, very good indeed, but very depressing."

I suppose it is natural that a show devoted to the artists who died young in any war is bound to give rise to sad thoughts of what might have been, the waste of it all and so on. But, were it not for this external fact we happen to know links together all the artists represented, I hardly think we would find this particular show depressing at all.

On the contrary, what strikes one immediately about it is the bounding vitality, the revolutionary glee evident in just about everything on the walls. The period immediately before the First World War, after all, was one of the most exciting, progressive, dynamic in the whole history of art, with Die Brücke, the Blaue Reiter, the Futurists, the Vorticists, the Cubists and innumerable other movements manifesting themselves in little more than a decade, throughout Europe and on both sides of what were to become the opposing parties when war broke out in 1914.

It is only to be expected that artists of the generations likely to be called up in the war should have been passionate sharers in all this, and that their art should reflect more the bliss of that dawn than the agony which prematurely ended their day.

There has been some argument, in these columns and elsewhere, about the paucity of the British representation, as though there were some sort of competition going, with points awarded for the number of potentially major artists each country managed to sacrifice. In point of fact, Britain seems to have been lucky in losing few: only the pleasant but very minor Geoffrey S. Allfree is included, plus Gaudier-Brzeska, who if not British was certainly part of the British art scene.

Unkind critics have said that we might think more highly nowadays of some other British artists (William Roberts or C.R.W. Nevinson, for instance) if they had been extinguished in the war, rather than living on to fritter away their early talents in a long decline. But it is clear that we should rejoice, rather, that in this respect at least, the fortunes of war can be

said to have gone so much in our favour. As it happens, the most obvious omission is an Italian, Boccioni, and it must mean something that we have to stop and think which side Italy was on in 1914-18. Boccioni is conspicuous by his absence for no political reason, by the way, but simply because all conceivably available Boccionis are at present in New York for the Metropolitan show I was discussing last week.

In other words, the death of all nine artists included seems more like a terrible accident of fate, no more meaningful in itself, perhaps, than the death of Schiele, Cillman, Bonzagni and De Souza-Cardoso in the influenza epidemic which immediately followed the war. It is no doubt good that we should remember and commemorate the victims of human folly. But the main reason for going to Oxford is to see some very remarkable art.

I said that the main effect of the paintings on view is the very opposite of depressing. Some of the painters are well known: it will surprise nobody to discover that the bold Expressionist colourists Marc and Macke create, as usual, a carefree impression. But the other three Germans included, Morgner, Stenner and Weisgerber are likely to be an unknown quantity.

Of them only Weisgerber is at all dark: apparently he had premonitions of an early and violent death long before war broke out, and was preoccupied with Saint Sebastian and scenes of martyrdom in general. (Oddly enough, the show includes St Sebastian by Gaudier-Brzeska and Stenner as well.) But the dynamism of his extraordinary "Absalom II", with the victim swinging by his hair across the



Bold, carefree Expressionism: August Macke's "Elisabeth und Walterchen", 1912

centre of the painting, does not suggest resignation to a hostile fate.

Morgner, a radiant and wholly individual Pointilliste, whose works are almost psychedelic in their effect, is perhaps the great discovery. But Stenner too, the youngest of the Expressionists to die in the war, at only 23, had already made a distinctive mark.

It is impossible not to indulge a little in futile speculation about the futures of these two painters, and even more on what

might have become of the two sculptors included, Gaudier-Brzeska and Duchamp-Villon, who had both shown outstanding individuality in their adaptation to Cubist ways of thinking and seeing. No doubt, as Wilfred Owen said, the poetry is in the pity. But pity alone cannot make poetry. Only art can do that.

In London there are several shows on at the moment of lesser-known artists from roughly the same generation as the Fallen, who were lucky enough to survive.

Maurice Lambert, Constant Lambert's sculptor brother, was born in 1901, and so just a shade young to be involved in the war. In the Thirties he was quite well-known and his works were frequently shown in London.

Subsequently, though he remained busy with commissions until his death in 1961, he seems to have fallen out of critical attention, only to arouse excited question again in the Eighties when odd examples of his work have turned up in major survey shows. The show at the Belgrave Gallery until December 9 covers the whole of his career, though unfortunately it does not include any of his stone carvings, which would seem to have constituted his finest works.

But, clearly, he was equally skilled at handling bronze and wood, and though perhaps one or two of his fishy subjects have an uncomfortable hint of David Wynne, his more classic pieces, like "Young Prometheus" or "Oceanides", show a fine, unforced appreciation of three-dimensional design.

Born in 1890, Henryk Gotlib was Polish, and spent much of the First World War doing paper-work in the Austrian army. In the early Twenties he was a leading figure in the Polish avant-garde group known as the Formists. He travelled a lot between the wars, and got stranded in Britain in 1939. Here, without contacts and lacking any earlier work (all of which was thought to have been destroyed in the invasion of Poland), he had to begin his career anew. The show at the Boundary Gallery until December 23 gives us a vivid idea of how he did it.

Though he was an excellent draughtsman, early and late (a cache of early drawings turned up in a Warsaw attic soon after his death in 1966), his real skill was as a painter. His sense of colour is wholly individual, bringing a visionary radiance to subjects (cows, trees, a group walking away along a road) which in other hands might be quite prosaic.

He relished human flesh - primarily feminine - and painted it with considerable bravado. But his lasting reputation will surely be based more on what he saw so intensely with his mind's eye, and enabled all the rest of us to see through his painting, than through his more literal depictions of what was sitting or lying in front of him.

Hit a top note

To celebrate Saint Cecilia's Day, *The Times* and the *New Grove* have devised a five-day competition to test your musical wits.

The first prize is in two parts: A 20-volume set of the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*, edited by Stanley Sadie and published by Macmillan at £1,100; plus New Year in New York: a five-day stay in Manhattan from December 30 to January 4, with flights and accommodation at the Grand Hyatt Hotel on 42nd Street, tickets to a gala evening featuring Marilyn Horne and friends at Carnegie Hall and to the Metropolitan Opera House to hear Plácido Domingo in *Aida*.

The second prize is a full 20-volume set of the *New Grove Dictionary of Music and Musicians*.

Here are the first five questions:

1. In what opera is there a character Sportin' Life?
2. What ballet refers to tennis?
3. What music critic was equally distinguished as a cricket writer?
4. Who wrote a *mouvement symphonique* "Rugby"?
5. What composer was the greatest chess player of his day?

THE TIMES NEW GROVE

Musical CHALLENGE

Three runners-up will each receive their choice of either the *New Grove Dictionary of American Music*, the *New Grove Dictionary of Musical Instruments*, or the *New Grove Dictionary of Jazz*, published at £395, £295 and £225 respectively.

How to enter

Each day until Saturday, November 26, five questions will appear in *The Times*. Keep your answers until Saturday, when instructions on where to send them will appear with the final set of questions.

The person with the greatest number of correct answers will be the winner. In the event of a tie, there will be a draw to determine the winner, the second prize winner and, if necessary, the runners-up.

Competition rules

1. Prizes cannot be exchanged for cash equivalent.
2. Entrants must be 18 years of age or over.
3. Employees of News International or Macmillan Ltd, past or present, and their immediate families, are not eligible.
4. No correspondence can be entered into.
5. The judges' decision is final.

Family occasion not to be missed

MUSIC FESTIVAL

Stockhausen
Huddersfield Town Hall

Stockhausen in Huddersfield: the pairing of names may still look odd, but Richard Steinitz and his 10-year-old Contemporary Music Festival have made the unlikely inevitable. It is not that Steinitz deserves congratulation for luring the most charismatic of composers to industrial Yorkshire in late autumn; his achievement has been rather to create a festival which nobody involved with the music of today could ignore.

The first Stockhausen concert, on Sunday night, brought us a new version of the middle act of *Donnerstag, Michael's Journey Around the World*, with *Telemusik*, that earlier chattering instance of world music, as overture. *Michael's Journey* has long been regarded as the most self-sufficient and strongest of the segments into which *Donnerstag* falls, and Stockhausen seems to have acquiesced in that view in providing a transcription for touring.

The soloists remain: the trumpeter Michael, bassist-hornist Eve, trombonist Lucifer and a joking pair of clarinetists. There is also a part for Kathinka Pasveer, the flautist presently ubiquitous in Stockhausen's music, while the rest of the original orchestral score is laid out for a "Modernes Orchester" of synthesizers and percussion, as used in *Montag*. One might be reminded of Liszt's arrangements, devised to take grand opera to places where the heroes of the stage could only be imagined. Except that Stockhausen's red-



Most charismatic: Stockhausen

uction of *Michael's Journey* keeps much of the drama: in particular the stylized gestures by which the instrumental soloists register greeting, mockery and erotic assignment. Played out on a bare stage, in the costume Stockhausen has designed for his characters (white shirt and electric-blue velvet trousers for Michael, snooker waistcoats for the clarinetists), the mime is fresher and more effective than in the opera house.

Markus Stockhausen here was outstanding in the long role of trumpeting super-being; the other soloists, all playing from memory and giving the piece everything in precision and commitment, included Suzanne Stephens as Eve and Ian Stuart and Lesley Schatzberger as the pranksters.

Paul Griffiths

JAZZ

Jan Garbarek
Borough Hall,
Greenwich

A typical Jan Garbarek composition, circa 1988, boils down to a fairly simple formula: subdued percussion, flutist piano and a gentle bass pulse, with Garbarek's saxophone and flute just one more element of the collective mood. Rarely sustaining a full-length solo, he is content to weave in and out of the rhythm section, expressing himself as much through silence as sound.

Like Keith Jarrett, he has succeeded in reaching an audience which might not care for conventional jazz. The pitfalls, though, are obvious, especially in the rarefied atmosphere of an ECM studio. There, Nordic introspection can so easily slip into self-parody and a kind of New Age decorativeness.

Some of those faults were on display again during the opening concert of his tour. Stretching over two hours, the quartet performance probably sated the appetite of even his most ardent fans.

The main attraction, of course, lay in the blend of folk music and contemporary themes. The new ECM album *Legend of The Seven Dwarfs*, continues the process with titles including "Tongue of Secrets" and a piece derived from a traditional Lapp melody.

Material from the LP was re-produced with almost eerie precision at Greenwich. Garbarek's tone finding a comfortable balance against Eberhard Weber's bass and the piano of Rainer Bruninghaus. Occasionally stepping back into the shadows, the leader allowed Nana Vasconcelos to dictate the course of the evening with extended percussion interludes.

Weber remained unobtrusive apart from a compelling solo which, with the help of electronics, produced the illusion of two or three double-basses playing simultaneously. The quartet returns to London this Saturday for a concert at the Town & Country with ECM label-mates First House and Markus and Simon Stockhausen.

Clive Davis

Form a queue

THEATRE

Line
Orange Tree,
Richmond

This 75-minute play by Israel Horowitz, produced 20 years ago Off-Broadway, where a revival is now in its 14th year, has never before been seen here. As two earlier plays, *The Indian Wants The Bronx* and *It's Called The Sugar Plum*, do surface occasionally, it is hard to understand the neglect of this original and witty piece.

A line is American for queue, and when the play begins slow-witted Fleming (Ron Travis) is already standing at the head of a one-man line, feet firmly planted on a strip of white tape stuck to the ground. This tape is also a line, and the desire to own it, in the sense of having your own feet there and nobody else's, is what motivates Fleming and the others who join him.

The entire play is concerned with their schemes to make those ahead lose their place. The quizical, Mozart-loving Stephen (Steven Gefroh) swiftly tricks Fleming out of first place; Dolan, truculent and beady-eyed (Ron Berglas) exploits a waiting game; long-legged Molly (Serena Wilson) seduces men out of the line; Arnall, her complainant husband (Michael Fitzpatrick), fails to take advantage of her antics with his rivals.

Horowitz's ingenuity lies in recognizing the universal relevance of all this manoeuvring to get to the front, but his energetic characters never dwindle into symbols, or remain restricted by the labels of whore, creep, dope or smart-ass foisted on them by rivals marked by temporary defeat.

Walters has brought over James Hammerstein, the original New York director, and his almost all-American cast respond with relish and zing to his crisp, precise direction. Recommended.

Jeremy Kingston

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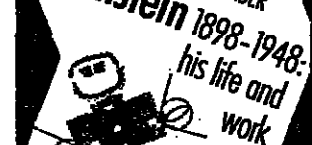
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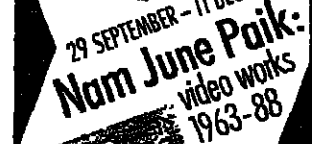
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General Accident to receive NZI repayment of £63.6m

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

General Accident, the Scottish composite insurer, is to receive repayments totalling £63.6m from NZI Corporation, the troubled New Zealand insurance and banking group, in which it has bought majority control.

The repayments are the result of a better-than-expected performance by GA's far eastern operations which have been transferred to NZI as part of the takeover deal. The GA businesses have increased substantially in net asset value, leading to a higher transfer price than had originally been agreed.

Most of the repaid cash will, however, be pumped back into NZI which is launching a

NZ\$286 million rights issue to restore its battered capital base. GA will be subscribing its 51 per cent share of the one-for-four issue and is planning to underwrite the rest.

Depending on the take-up of rights by other shareholders, GA could end up holding 67 per cent of NZI. This would require waiving a stipulation in the original deal under which GA voluntarily limited its stake in the New Zealand group to less than 60 per cent for the first three years.

GA is subscribing for NZI shares at the company's net asset value so that there would be no asset dilution involved.

The rights issue was made more pressing by the dismal half-year performance an-

nounced yesterday by NZI for the six months to September 30. This includes special provisions of NZ\$183 million on its banking operations together with bad debt write-offs of NZ\$34 million. The result is an overall loss for the group of NZ\$139 million.

After a further extraordinary item of NZ\$40 million, write-down of future tax benefits takes the consolidated loss to NZ\$179 million.

NZI did not rule out further provisions on the banking side although these are thought to be unlikely. Mr Ian Menzies, general manager of GA, said: "We don't expect more provisions on the existing book of business. We have had a thorough look through it with new

auditors and have been very heavy on the provisioning."

He said that the immediate priority was to get the bank working properly, but did not rule out an eventual sale. "We have had quite a few offers for the bank recently."

NZI's poor performance, however, confirms the pessimistic views of many analysts when GA first announced that it was taking a majority stake in the group during the summer. There were fears that the banking operation was in a worse condition than the original terms of the deal implied, and this has turned out to be the case.

Previous total provisions against bad debts at NZI Bank amounted to NZ\$100 million.

Cramer's assets stay frozen

Temporary High Court orders freezing £14 million of the personal and business fortune of Mr Guy von Cramer, aged 26, the former business associate of Mr Peter Clowes, the financier, were continued by agreement yesterday.

Mr Justice Peter Gibson made an order continuing the asset freeze until full trial of the High Court action begun by Barlow Clowes International and its court-appointed receivers, in their attempts to recover £138 million lost by investors.

A letter of consent was put in by Mr von Cramer's solicitors, agreeing to the continuation of the freezing order granted last August against Mr von Cramer and his company, Cramer (Holdings) and its subsidiaries Management Support, Craven Rodgers and Corporate and Management Advice.

A letter of consent was also put in by solicitors acting for Corporate Funding Finance Ltd, agreeing to the continuation of a £1.3 million asset freezing order also obtained by BCI last August.

LCP disposal

Union Square, the property company, has bought a 17-acre science park south of Cambridge from LCP Properties, the Ward White Group subsidiary, in a joint venture with Metropolitan & County Group, a private developer. Currently 100,000 sq ft of space is let to a variety of high-tech computer-related businesses, with plans to develop twice as much. The purchase price is thought to be below £10 million.

Shani boost

Shani Group, the fashionwear maker which came to the United Securities Market in May, has comfortably beaten its £2 million profit forecast made at that time with £2.22 million pre-tax for the year to end-July, up from £1.4 million last year. A final dividend of 1.6p makes a total of 1.61p. The company continues to seek acquisitions.

Bid extended

Oliver Resources, of Dublin, claims to speak for 34.5 per cent of North West Exploration, of Belfast, after receiving acceptance in respect of 19.68 per cent by last Friday's closing date. The bid has been extended until this Friday.

Inchcape sale

Inchcape has exchanged contracts to sell its Inchcape House complex in Singapore for S\$100 million (£28.5 million). The proceeds will be used for further investments.

COMMENT David Brewerton

Pensioning off some highly leveraged egos

The record bidding war for RJR Nabisco may well be the rod which breaks the resolve of United States regulators not to tamper with the wave of takeovers inundating the market place.

Congress has already expressed its strong alarm. The US Federal Reserve Board has issued a warning to banks. Even the US Justice Department and the Federal Trade Commission, enforcers of the antitrust laws, are beginning to stand up and take notice after eight years of a hands off approach to mergers and takeovers.

The battle for Nabisco was bigger, more expensive, different from the rest, and the egos involved are as big as the record sums ranging from \$20.3 billion to \$26.8 billion.

It is a battle of wills between Mr Henry Kravis, the flamboyant partner of Kohlberg, Kravis and Roberts and Mr Peter Cohen, the chief executive of Shearson Lehman Hutton. Both men, in their determination to win the prize, are willing to pay a price for the 19th largest US corporation which many analysts regard as too high.

Mr Gerald Corrigan, president of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, gave one of the first warnings when he complained, in a widely circulated speech, that "debt, deficits, and leveraging have become a way of life for business and for individuals".

In the presidential election both candidates wondered aloud whether the leveraged buyouts which were

saddling US corporations with record debt were getting out of hand. In the opinion of influential leaders in the democratic-controlled Congress, the answer is a resounding yes. Mr James Wright, the Speaker of the US House, has promised to back the calls of his committee chairmen for hearings early in the new Congress which convenes in January. The Senate, which is electing a new leader, will follow suit.

At this point, however, no one is quite sure how to curb the excesses without killing the good features of a takeover boom which has reinvigorated Wall Street.

Mr Alan Greenspan's firm call for a review of US tax laws which encourage large borrowing appears to be the logical first step. Since tax deductions are allowed on bond offerings but not on dividends paid on share offerings, more and more corporations opt to take on debt.

The Nabisco battle has also focused attention on a new area of finance which Congress has not considered. The large representation of the pension funds of non-profit organizations in the competing financing packages has led to calls for reform.

Mr JJ Pickle, a colourful Texas congressman who chairs a powerful House Ways and Means Committee, summed up the concerns of many. "It may be that Congress has not gone far enough in safeguarding the tremendous sources of tax-exempt capital held for the public trust from what could be high risk investments," he said.

Vive la différence

Lord Cockfield and Francis Maude did not have a chance to compare notes before their speeches at a yesterday's *Financial Times* conference on 1992. While Mr Maude, Corporate Affairs Minister, was enthusing about Lord Cockfield's tenacity and clear-sightedness and praising his immense contribution to the momentum of the single European market, his lordship was putting the finishing touches to his own speech, which was highly critical of the British Government.

Not to put too fine a point upon it, Lord Cockfield is being replaced as British Commissioner for the European Community because his views have brought him into conflict with the British Government. His hot seat is being handed on to Mr Leon Brittan, who will be as aware as Lord Cockfield that he will not be over there to represent us over here, but to serve the community; and that is why Messrs Maude and Cockfield find themselves on opposite sides.

That said, his lordship, battling for Europe, is likely to find a more sympathetic echo from industry than Mr Maude, bowling (underarm) for

Britain. In particular, Lord Cockfield will find great support, both in manufacturing industry and in financial services, for his view that the development or evolution of the single European currency must follow hard on the heels of 1992 if London is to remain the financial centre of this time zone.

Mr Maude, on the other hand, won few new friends with his comments on merger policy, where new proposals aimed at streamlining the approval of mergers and takeovers are due to be released today. Mr Maude displayed at least lack of tact and possibly lack of knowledge with his comment that: "The threat of takeover may be uncomfortable for those running companies, but it also provides the sharpest possible incentive to keep a company competitive."

Mr Maude seems to have missed the point. The British companies which are most attractive to overseas predators are those which offer access to the market of Europe's 320 million people, and most foreign predators would sooner take over a company which is "competitive and in good shape" than a run-down ragbag

Media group leaps past £11m

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

Booyant advertising and successful new magazine launches have maintained strong growth at Emap, the local newspaper, magazine, exhibitions and printing group. Pre-tax profits rose by a third to £11.23 million in the six months to October 1 on turnover up 24 per cent at £166 million.

Sir Frank Rogers, the chairman, said he believed the more profitable second half of the year would be up to expectations and "we are looking to the long term with confident anticipation." The interim dividend rises by 30 per cent from 1.1p to 1.43p per share.

The newspaper division, which is concentrated in the buoyant East Anglia, South Midlands and South-east regions, has been particularly strong with job advertising growing by 70 per cent and continued savings from improved technology and contracting-out.

Emap has also bought local newspapers in Kent, Wales and 40 per cent of TR Beckett

Newspapers in Eastbourne, East Sussex.

New launches included the successful *More* and *Today's Gaffer* in consumer magazines and *Television Week* in the business magazine division. Group profits were struck after charging £3.5 million against £1.5 million a year ago for new launches.

Mr Robin Miller, Emap's chief executive, said he expected annual savings of £2 million to grow from an agreement in April with the Haymarket group to combine circulation, marketing and distribution for consumer magazines.

"Mr Miller said the 30 per cent growth of advertising volume was bound to slow, but there had been virtually no sign of this happening yet. "There are still lots of new markets to tap and cost savings to be made. And if advertising growth halved next year, we would still be 15 per cent better off."

Tempus, page 26



New markets to tap: Robin Miller, chief executive of Emap

Trusthouse sells off 10 hotels

By Cliff Feltham

Trusthouse Forte has sold 10 provincial hotels for a reputed £35 million. The hotels, which have a total of 768 rooms, were among the smallest in the group. Four were acquired as part of the takeover of Kennedy Brooks this year.

Nine hotels are being bought by Crown Hotels, a private company, and the tenth has been acquired by Nastroon Limited.

Buyers are still being sought for the Londonderry Hotel in London at a price thought to be about £60 million.

City Gate fall

City Gate Estates, the property company where Mr James Gulliver is chairman, has unveiled first-half pre-tax profits of £533,000, down from nearly £2 million. The company says the results are in line with its July USM flotation prospectus when it said most of the profits would be made in the second half. The interim dividend is 3.375p. City Gate is buying three sites in northern France.

Greenbank value falls £40m

By Martin Waller

More than £40 million was wiped off the stock market value of Walker Greenbank, the industrial conglomerate being built up by Sir Anthony Jolliffe, a former Lord Mayor of London, yesterday after shock news of what the company termed "material accounting irregularities" at its second biggest subsidiary.

The news, which saw the share price more than halved, from 127p to 60p, before closing at 82p, had analysts downgrading profit forecasts for the year to end-January. Mr Tim Harris at UBS-Phillips &

Drew had been expecting £15.5 million, including a £4 million contribution from Alkar. He now believes Alkar to be making a loss, including necessary write-offs and adjustments which will have to be taken above the line.

Depending on the scale of these, Walker Greenbank could now turn in pre-tax profits of between £7 million and £9 million, rising to perhaps £12.5 million next financial year, he believes.

A main board director, Mr Alan Carr, who ran Alkar International, the shopfitting

subsidiary, has been dismissed, Sir Anthony said. Mr Carr sold the business to Walker Greenbank in January 1987 for a package which included heavy "earn-out" payments based on half its future profits. Mr Carr has so far been paid £3.4 million.

The company has gained an injunction against Mr Carr preventing him from selling any of his shareholding.

Sir Anthony said two other board members of Alkar were co-operating with a detailed investigation, by Touche Ross, the accountant.

Medes cool over Syphon buyout

By Lawrence Lever

Melton Medes, the private industrial group which has a stake of almost 8 per cent in British Syphon, was last night reserving its position on the proposed £49.9 million management buyout at the industrial holding group.

Details of the proposed buyout were released yesterday.

British Syphon forecasts profits before tax of "at or

about £5.252 million" for the year to December 31. The £49.9 million price tag on the buyout represents a historic p/e multiple of 15.5 times 1987 earnings.

Melton Medes has, since building its stake, expressed dissatisfaction with the 155p share price on offer from the British Syphon management.

A spokesman for Melton

Medes said that the company still, on the face of it, considered the buyout price too low.

Some 8.5 per cent of the British Syphon shares have already been pledged in favour of the buyout while Mr Brian Armata, the independent director of the company and FK English Trust, his adviser, describe the buyout terms as "fair and reasonable".

Losses and gains at Citicorp

Citicorp, which made 38 Vickers de Costa staff redundant last week, may be getting the smartest new offices in the City - the former Billingsgate fish market which is currently being converted by Lloyd's architect Richard Rogers - but the prospect of a scenic view over the Thames is not keeping its market-makers.

Following the defection of Terry Connor and Bob Wade to Robert Fleming, where they plan to increase institutional business, three of their former Citicorp colleagues, Ray Shad, Ken Gankenscer and Patrick Coppard are now also off to Flemings. The trio, also market-makers who answered a recruitment advertisement, will help Flemings beef up its coverage of alpha stocks - it currently covers 45 per cent of the market and wants to increase that to 75 per cent.

Flemings has also strengthened its team of analysts; one recent capture was Ray Bowden, a senior analyst at County NatWest, who is to become head of research. But Citicorp is taking on John King, managing director of British Telecom's overseas division, to run the bank's Quotron system. This financial information system, the US equivalent of the Reuters screen which has been used by Citicorp since 1986, is to expand in Europe and the Far East. Quotron already has 100,000 terminals in 23 countries, used by banks, brokerage houses, exchanges and corporations.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Aria manager moves

The departure of Peter Phillips, finance director of Laura Ashley, was causing sorrow in the Welsh Marches yesterday. After seven years with the textile and clothing group, Phillips, previously with RCA and Plessey, is to become finance director of Hepworth, the big Sheffield-based construction supply group chaired by Professor Roland Smith. Hepworth, which recently dropped the "Ceramic" part of its name, has been expanding

rapidly and is set to make acquisitions. Phillips will take up his position there early in the new year. His family will probably remain in Shrewsbury, while he takes a pied à terre in Yorkshire. However, Phillips, an opera buff, has insisted on retaining his new executive directorship of Welsh National Opera. But I reckon that it will not be long before he becomes a prime target for Opera North fund-raisers.

Super bowl

I thought cornflakes were good for you, but... JL Kellogg School, the graduate business department of Northwestern University in Illinois, has come top in a

survey of the best MBA programmes in the United States. Following Northwestern were Harvard, Dartmouth's Amos Tuck school, and the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School. The results came from a poll of 3,000 1988 graduates.

My spies south of the Thames have come up with a new prices game. Once, the cost of a single glass of Perrier water in London bars was the cause of mirth or near-cardiac arrest, but now it is the turn of Beaujolais Nouveau. A Savory Mills salesman reports that he paid £6.35 for a bottle of the stuff, which went on sale last Thursday, in The George in Borough High Street, one of the capital's oldest inns. With the price this year around £3 in supermarkets and wine shops, I suppose the mark-up is permissible, and I suspect it will not turn out to be the most expensive.



Chop and change

The last of the old City chop-houses is due to serve its final meal next March. The George and Vulture will no longer warm the insides of brokers with its steak and kidney pies as the owner of the freehold, Tadcaster-based brewer, Samuel Smith, intends turning it into a plain public house. The present building in Castle Court, part of the warren of passages off Cornhill, only occupies about a quarter of the space of the old George and Vulture. This was immortalized by Charles Dickens as the meeting place for Mr Pickwick and his friends during the trial of Bardell versus Pickwick. Now the City Pickwick Society, which met there four times a year, will have to find another venue. There was an attempt to redevelop the site in 1970, but that was seen off by a petition which resulted in the building obtaining a Grade A listing. Previously owned by Williams & Glyn's bank, the George and Vulture was then sold to the Church Commissioners. The Commissioners are now redeveloping the area but because they cannot touch the old place they sold it to Samuel Smith, which has no restaurant division and does not want to keep the food side going. At present the building is operated by Trusthouse Forte. Raymond Hall, the manager, is desolate. "The decision has nothing to do with the level of business. We are still as popular as ever. It is very sad. A bit of City history is being wiped out."

Rosemary Unsworth

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FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Sterling index compared with 1975 was down at 77.1 (day's range 77.0-77.1).			
STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES			
Market rates for November 21			
	Close	1 month	3 month
New York	1,814.0-1,825.0	1,820.0-1,825.0	1,830.0-1,840.0
London	2,199.96-2,211.99	2,199.96-2,211.99	2,199.96-2,211.99
Amsterdam	3,500.53-3,587.57	3,500.53-3,587.57	3,500.53-3,587.57
Frankfurt	1,814.0-1,825.0	1,814.0-1,825.0	1,814.0-1,825.0
Copenhagen	12,120.12-12,159.12	12,120.12-12,159.12	12,120.12-12,159.12
Stockholm	1,176.51-1,183.51	1,176.51-1,183.51	1,176.51-1,183.51
Oslo	1,176.51-1,183.51	1,176.51-1,183.51	1,176.51-1,183.51
Dublin	2,671.26-2,683.26	2,671.26-2,683.26	2,671.26-2,683.26
Madrid	207.11-207.98	207.11-207.98	207.11-207.98
Lisbon	2,242.24-2,254.24	2,242.24-2,254.24	2,242.24-2,254.24
Paris	11,877.11-11,938.11	11,877.11-11,938.11	11,877.11-11,938.11
Brussels	11,536.10-11,549.10	11,536.10-11,549.10	11,536.10-11,549.10
Shanghai	10,101.01-10,115.01	10,101.01-10,115.01	10,101.01-10,115.01
Tokyo	22,221.22-22,274.22	22,221.22-22,274.22	22,221.22-22,274.22
Hong Kong	2,645.27-2,657.27	2,645.27-2,657.27	2,645.27-2,657.27
Perth	2,645.27-2,657.27	2,645.27-2,657.27	2,645.27-2,657.27
Premium = P, Discount = d.			

OTHER STERLING RATES	
Argentina (maestros)	26,445.45-26,457.45
Australia (dollars)	2,123.23-2,127.23
Bahram (rands)	0,020.02-0,039.03
Bombay (rupees)	58.00-58.00
Canada (dollars)	0,050.00-0,050.00
Cyprus pound	1,475.75-1,475.75
Finland (marks)	7,487.87-7,487.87
France (francs)	20.00-20.00
Germany (marks)	1,475.75-1,475.75
Hong Kong (dollars)	1,475.75-1,475.75
India (rupees)	72.25-72.25
Indonesia (rupiahs)	1,475.75-1,475.75
Japan (yen)	0,050.00-0,050.00
Malaysia (ringgit)	1,475.75-1,475.75
Mexico pesos	2,123.23-2,127.23
Netherlands (guilder)	2,070.70-2,070.70
New Zealand (dollars)	2,123.23-2,127.23
Saudi Arabia (riyals)	6.75-6.75
South Africa (rand)	8,937.37-8,937.37
Singapore (dollars)	1,475.75-1,475.75
S. Africa rand (rand)	8,937.37-8,937.37
Switzerland (francs)	6.75-6.75
U.S.A. (cents)	10.00-10.00

Source: Reuters
 Edited by
 Exel and Barclays Bank MIFEX

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Open High Low Close Vol					Open High Low Close Vol				
PT-SE 100					US Treasury Bond				
Previous open interest 16007					Previous open interest 15692				
Dec 88	183.30	183.30	182.00	182.00	Dec 88	8992	8860	8728	8730
Jan 89	180.00	182.30	184.00	184.00	Mar 89	8718	8722	8718	8718
Previous open interest 30110					Long Gold				
Dec 88	96.74	97.77	97.70	97.71	Dec 88	9602	9609	9603	9605
Jan 89	96.61	97.28	97.28	97.28	Mar 89	9618	9624	9616	9614
Dec 88	87.50	88.22	88.45	88.45	Jun 89	NT	NT	9615	9620
Jan 89	88.83	88.84	88.79	88.78	Japanese Govt Bond				
Previous open interest 32324					Previous open interest 180				
Dec 88	107.88	107.88	107.88	107.88	Dec 88	107.88	107.88	107.88	107.88
Jan 89	107.88	107.88	107.88	107.88	Mar 89	107.88	107.88	107.88	107.88
Dec 88	90.57	90.58	90.54	90.54	German Govt Bond				
Jan 89	90.57	90.58	90.54	90.54	Dec 88	97.17	97.23	97.17	97.22
Dec 88	92.81	92.81	92.87	92.86	Mar 89	96.67	96.67	96.74	96.74
COMMODITIES					COMMODITIES				
LONDON FOEX					LONDON METAL EXCHANGE				
Official price previous day					Official price previous day				
Cocoa					Cocoa				
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Thomas Telford's thriving legacy

This report marks three significant anniversaries: the 170th year of the Institution of Civil Engineers, the 150th birthday of the consulting firm Rendel, Palmer & Tritton and the 75th year of the Association of Consulting Engineers

Thomas Telford, one of the greatest bridge-builders, would undoubtedly approve of the Institution of Civil Engineers as it marks its 170th birthday year. Telford was the institution's first president, a man of international fame who was buried in Westminster Abbey.

His legacy was one of high professional standards with a Royal Charter that says the institution exists not for the good of the members but for the benefit of society.

His name can always be seen where there are civil - it means civilian as opposed to military - engineers because his is the name of the institution's publishing company.

The company produces text books, learned journals and periodicals and has an annual list of 200 titles.

As the institution's membership grew over the years so did its influence as it became a world leader in its field. Early in the century the institution moved into palatial premises in Great George Street, London (to be near Parliament as Bills were necessary in those days for major projects) and it has been there ever since.

As well as headquarters, it acts as a London club for its 72,000 members who are spread over the world, serving communities in 146 countries. The premises are undergoing a £10 million refurbishment scheme, with the provision of extra members' services such as computerizing the library, additional office area, a small lecture theatre, new restaurant areas, six new committee rooms, a members' room and more space.

An overhaul of the organizational structure of the institu-

tion is also being considered. Not only does it provide a forum for discussion, but in setting the standards and the examinations that working engineers must take, 1,500 from all over the world do so every year.

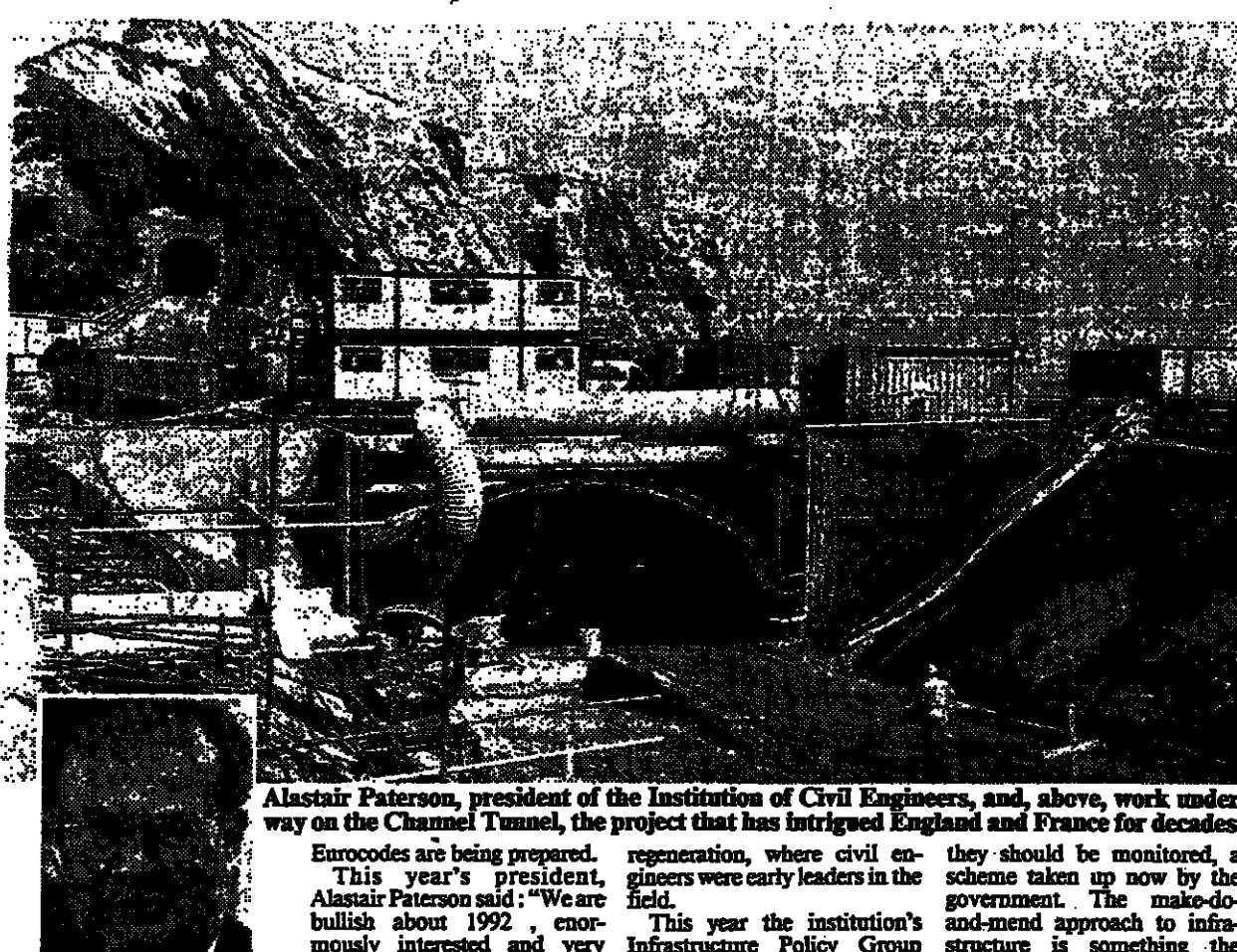
Civil engineers are needed in any work involving foundations and infrastructure which means simply everything to do with civilization. They work in four main sectors: public, consulting, engineering, contracting and academic, the last being involved in the running of degree courses necessary before the two professional examinations are taken by students while actually working.

Because of the growth of the different activities the institution set up a working party to try and make the structure more effective and less cumbersome.

The proposals that members will debate before any decisions are finally made include: changing the monthly council meeting so that it only meets two or three times a year, reconstituting it to include local association chairmen in Britain and overseas representatives; reducing the committees (there are about 100) who sit on varied matters; a new management structure under a director general and regional offices with paid secretaries.

This is part of keeping pace with the changing world with problems and challenges like the Channel Tunnel, 1992 and Inner City regeneration in all of which ICE is heavily involved.

ICE believes that unless there is a direct link from Folkestone at the British end of the Channel Tunnel to the Midlands and Manchester, the



Alastair Paterson, president of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and, above, work under way on the Channel Tunnel, the project that has intrigued England and France for decades

tunnel will merely contribute to the economic overheating of the south.

At the moment the institution's leaders are seeking to set up a meeting where the government and interested bodies, whether public or private, can come together and discuss the matter.

Another field in which they are engaged is 1992. The problems include the way that professional standards have evolved and been put into practice in individual countries. France and Germany have different codes to each other and to the UK.

ICE is looking at all aspects including matters like training and professional indemnity and how the different countries can communicate with each other in working practices. One obstacle that could have been a major problem has already been overcome, the change to metrification, and common

Eurocodes are being prepared. This year's president, Alastair Paterson said: "We are bullish about 1992, enormously interested and very enthusiastic. We think we can easily adapt."

"The General Directive enables one profession to practise in another member state. We are in favour of it as long as the standards are kept up and our concern is that they are."

He said that the British system of training under a senior engineer had no counterpart in Europe and that the French, for example, have a different philosophy to engineering where it is regarded as a much more intellectual pursuit compared with the British traditional background of a craft followed by technical colleges and then University.

But he said: "There is a different approach but in the end it is very similar. For 100 years we have been used to working outside the UK. A quarter of our members do and working in Europe will be very much easier than in places we have worked before."

Another challenge being met is that of Inner City and urban

regeneration, where civil engineers were early leaders in the field.

This year the institution's Infrastructure Policy Group produced a major report on urban regeneration containing case studies of 22 projects they are monitoring, some successful, some not, which went to the government and the public through four seminars.

In its report they show how they studied schemes including Belfast, Glasgow, Widnes, Bradford, Liverpool, Gateshead, Salford, Swansea, and London Docklands.

"Experience shows that where there exists a shared will and determination to reject spatio-urban decay can be rolled back."

The report is part of another role that the institution plays: watching what is happening in the country and what should be done and what lessons can be learnt. It keeps under review the nation's infrastructure and draws government attention to the measures that are necessary for maintenance and improvement.

ICE pinpointed the condition of the roads and how

they should be monitored, a scheme taken up now by the government. The make-do-and-mend approach to infrastructure is something the institution is strongly against.

Mr Paterson said: "We started about 10 years ago making the point that it was not receiving the attention and investment necessary. We have followed it through in a very methodical way and have produced three reports."

"We are still of the view that we are neglecting the investment of former generations by not taking proper action to replace and maintain."

"Sewers and water pipes are reaching the end of their economic lives after 100 years or so. We think there should be money allocated to the authorities responsible, the county and district councils, the water authorities. We have been saying this for years and it does not go down very well."

"They talk about money forces but this does not apply in this case. No one in private industry is going to take any notice until it does collapse. It has already happened."

David Thurlow



Thames Barrier: one of the biggest contracts of recent years

Foundations on which an empire grew

It was in 1838 that Rendel Palmer & Tritton became a full blown partnership, with headquarters in London, although the beginnings go back even further for what is one of the longest-established firms of consulting engineers.

James Meadows Rendel, having served his time as a surveyor under the great Thomas Telford, had set up practice as a civil engineer in Plymouth in 1822, but it was when he reached London that partnership propelled the firm on the growth path now still being followed.

By 1913, Sir Alexander Rendel, son of James and Seymour Biscoe Tritton were joined by Frederick Palmer to create Rendel Palmer & Tritton.

By then James Rendel had already, in 1852-53, reached the highest professional office as president of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

He was followed in the same office in 1926 by the then Sir Frederick Palmer.

James Rendel, when he came to London, put up his plate as a professional engineer in Great George Street, just off Parliament Square.

He later moved a few doors away to what is now the site of the headquarters of the Institution of Civil Engineers.

In India the partnership was responsible for the building of 31,000 miles of railway, and

later, in 1880, completing the Royal Albert Dock in London, which at that time was the largest enclosed dock in the world.

Rendel Palmer & Tritton was responsible for London's Waterloo Bridge, completed in 1942.

A list of current projects shows the breadth of its expertise. They range from designing the Coalport floating dock complex for servicing Trident submarines and reviewing traffic problems on the M25 to rebuilding 25 Bangladesh bridges and organizing the design and construction of the expanding Aden oil port in South Yemen.

Such top government and international contracts are dealt with at the London headquarters. Other contracts being undertaken are the expansion of Surabaya port in Indonesia.

Contracts being tackled by regional offices include widening of the M6 in Lancashire, the construction of the £200 million western orbital road around Birmingham, a spine road through the Black Country and design of the Usk barrage at Newport.

Among contracts completed in recent years have been the Thames Barrier, the Jindo and Colson bridges in Korea and a toll road in Indonesia.

Derek Harris

High-Point plc congratulates the British Civil Engineering Industry on its history of great achievements

High-Point is an international, multi-disciplinary group of companies specialising in project promotion and consultancy. High-Point combines business skills, entrepreneurial strengths and management consultancy services with a comprehensive range of independent, professional disciplines relevant to each stage of project identification, evaluation, financing, planning, design, engineering, construction, commissioning and maintenance. Bringing certainty and economy to capital projects.

High-Point plc



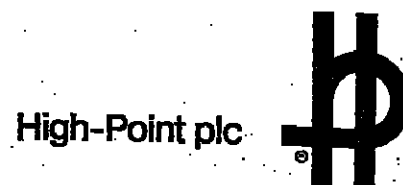
High-Point, project promoters and consultants in development and construction worldwide



The High-Point Group maintain regional offices throughout the UK, North America, Far East & the Pacific Rim and in other international locations.

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Telefax: 01-928 5566



Bringing Certainty and Economy to Capital Projects

FOCUS

CONSULTING
CIVIL ENGINEERS

Rebirth of the old firm

Ian Reeves trained as a quantity surveyor with Rendel Palmer & Tritton (RPT), the engineering design and consultancy group celebrating its 150th anniversary this year, writes Derek Harris. Now he has played a crucial role in the transformation of his old firm into one of the first engineering partnerships to become a public company. He was able to do this, first as a management consultant, then as chairman of High-Point, a financial, contractual and management consultancy, which he founded in 1970.

At the end of 1983, it was listed on the unlisted securities market (USM) and last November High-Point graduated to a full stock market listing.

It was in the early 1980s that RPT began taking stock of its problems. It was one of the world's most respected engineering consultancies but its partners realized something more was needed than just an infusion of young blood as older partners retired.

RPT was a medium-size practice with market leadership in several sectors but it did not have the strength of larger, broad-based enterprises with consequent economies of scale.

A fiercer competitive climate was emerging in construction and inflation was gnawing at the firm's equity base. The partners had to

accept that there was always the risk of their being sued individually and stripped of all their assets, a situation which limited liability company status avoids.

In 1984, RPT called in Ian Reeves as a consultant to advise on corporate and business development strategy. He suggested new management corporate people with the right entrepreneurial and risk-taking skills.

The Reeves diagnosis set the scene for the merger between RPT and High-Point, a first step being the drafting from High-Point of three key executives: Mr Reeves as chief executive, Ian Findley as finance director and Bruce Claxton as company secretary.

An RPT partner, David Hookway, was appointed director of operations. High-Point bought out RPT from its partners in 1986 to create High-Point Rendel as a division of the High-Point group.

Mr Hookway is now chairman of that division as well as a director on the High-Point main board. As partner, "baronies" were swept away and replaced by a corporate board structure, each department's performance and growth potential was assessed, financial controls systems were introduced and marketing disciplines laid down.

The inevitable culture clash was tackled by appointing younger managers from down the line, by explaining issues



Ian Reeves, of High-Point Rendel, and one of Rendel's projects, high-level bridge on the A470 across the River Taff



and holding management conferences and team-ins.

But not only has the old RPT been changed to meet competitive demands. So has High-Point which had been the smaller organization. Expanding from its old consultancy base, High-Point now sees itself as investor and developer of a range of professional and technical businesses, all relying on the expertise of individuals to handle capital projects around the globe.

High-Point Rendel is one of three core businesses. By building in the RPT business, High-Point Rendel is an international player with a proved

track record in project management as well as planning and design.

The original High-Point consultancy is the second core business with 20 offices around the world, five of them in the United Kingdom and 12 in the United States. The third, High-Point Development, has been created to promote entire construction projects with joint venture projects as a likely route for some developments.

To increase High-Point's boundaries of expertise there have been other acquisitions, among them Hancock & Partners (mechanical and electrical consulting engineers),

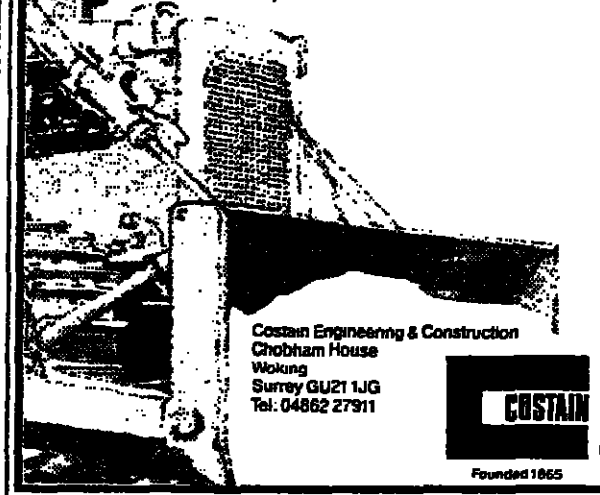
Geomorphological Services (earth science consultants) and Rendel & Branch (landscape architects and designers).

High-Point Rendel has also moved further into land use planning and environmental consultancy services, buttressing its activities there with the acquisition of the recently privatized London Scientific Services, once part of the Greater London Council.

So High-Point can best grasp opportunities, Mr Reeves as chairman is in charge of strategy, while Robert Wharton, chief executive and deputy chairman, takes care of the day-to-day running of the group.

ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

to
The Institution of Civil Engineers
The Association of Consulting Engineers
and
Rendel, Palmer and Tritton



FOUNDATIONS FOR COST MANAGEMENT

In civil engineering, as in any form of construction, effective cost control is essential. Essential because it allows the client to plan ahead with financial security.

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Heritage of the old Commonwealth

The Association of Consulting Engineers came into being 75 years ago as electricity was first developed. Industrialists who wanted to use the new invention needed independent advice from those who knew best but were not tied to any rival or commercial interest, writes David Thurlow.

From that small beginning of a handful of engineers the Association has developed, now engaged in multi-million pound projects like dam and bridge building, roads, ports, harbours, sewers, town centres, hospitals and major

schemes from the highest engineering and construction feats to the lowest and simplest tasks but still using the basic philosophy to guide all its activities: independent advice of the highest possible standard without bias.

In its 75 years of history, the handful has grown to 1,150 members from firms engaged on projects in 140 countries.

Next year the members will be asked to consider changing their rules to move into line with other bodies so that consulting engineers, traditionally partnerships of varying

sizes where the partners laid their own money on the line, can become public limited companies. It is only five years since the constitution was altered to allow private limited companies.

The thinking behind the latest move is that the consumer-orientated public tends to think more in terms of litigation than in the past and partnerships think of protecting themselves should the need ever arrive.

The change will affect only a few because consultancies range in size from a total of

five employees to the giants with 3,000, the work from some marvel such as the Thames Barrier to a shop floor in the high street, all vital in different ways.

Then there is the challenge of 1992. Many ACE members are used to working in the developing Third World, but not so much in Europe. This year's chairman of ACE, Mr Geoffrey Coates, senior partner in Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners of Reading, Berks and 40 years an engineer, said: "I do not think consulting engineers will be setting up offices in Europe but instead will be using their experience in an interchange between them and us, swapping skills."

The history of ACE goes back to the days of the growing and evolving Empire and Commonwealth. Mr Coates said: "They had to have people they could rely on to give independent advice. Our reputation put us in a very good position in regard to development overseas to the point where the members are now bringing in invisible exports of £500 million a year, some £200 million more than 10 years ago."

"It was slightly down last year because development in the Gulf States has reached a peak. You cannot go on building ports and airports, roads and infrastructure forever."

ACE is one of the largest professional bodies of its kind in the world. It has close ties with Fidic, the international federation of consultant engineers and Costic, the European one. Mr Coates, who is a member of the international body's committee, sees the future after 1992 as a new challenge, coupled with new ways of adapting to modern needs like the way of carrying out big projects.

Making sure that old mine workings were all right

In the past a contractor would set up the project, then put it out to tender once he had decided on the format. Not now. The new word is BOOT: build, own, operate and transfer. A consortium of, for instance, contractor, banker, designer, is formed with the money up front. Then they call in a consulting engineer with a worldwide reputation for advice and to give added credibility to the package.

It was the presentation to the Government on urban regeneration that took it to the Black Country to make sure the land for development there would be safe to build on. Mr Coates explained: "Industry likes to have security in the ground they build on, that it is secure and not contaminated. We were not sure that the government appreciated the value of having consulting engineers to prepare the infrastructure and make sure that land dotted with old mine workings below ground was all right."

The Government listened. ACE members are also involved in the massive Docklands programme, preparing the old docks to a safe and secure standard for the vast building programme.

It is just part of its work in Britain.



Geoffrey Coates, senior partner in Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners of Reading: 40 years an engineer

Civilisation

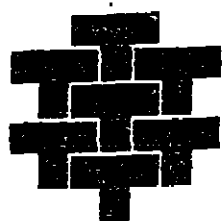
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TECHNOLOGY

More than paper profits

By Ken Young

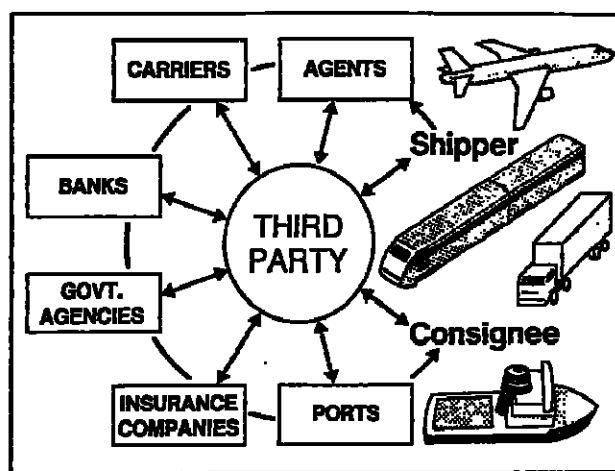
Paperless trading is one of this year's success stories in high technology. Even the most mundane activities are now supported by nationwide electronic networks that do away with mountains of invoices, order slips and stock records.

A trip to your local Superdrug chemist shop is a case in point. At the end of the day the shop's point of sale system transfers trading figures to a network linking Superdrug to many of its key suppliers.

A trial system has indicated that savings are made through increased accuracy of orders and time savings. The faster turnaround of stock data also allows a reduction in stock holdings.

Superdrug is part of an electronic network called Tradenet which links hundreds of retailers and retail suppliers. The success of the retail network is now being emulated in over 20 other markets such as insurance, shipping, pharmaceuticals, travel, and the motor trade.

British Coal sees itself as one of the leading innovators in the use of such networks. It began in 1982 with a pilot scheme to evaluate the benefits of trading electronically with its partners. It created a network linking 12 of its leading mining machinery manufacturers, primarily to exchange orders and invoices



Source: International Network Services

and in some cases lead time prices and list critical spares.

The success of the pilot led to the creation of a clearing house system that allows a wider range of use and increased the numbers trading on the system. It has just announced the connection of the 100th supplier and expects this to grow to 300 by the end of next year.

British Coal claims to have saved £20,000 in paper handling costs and says suppliers are reporting improved cash flow due to reduced invoice errors.

The industry now boasts over 1,500 users of such networks—double the figure a year ago—and, according to Eric Forth, the junior minister for commerce, the UK paperless trading market is

worth £100 million and the number of users is growing at the rate of 15 per cent per month.

Industry analysts now believe that use of electronic trading is vital to companies looking for European expansion. David Rumble, a consultant at the PA Consulting Group says British companies are in a good position to gain advantage.

"The UK accounts for over 80 per cent of the European paperless trading activity and the use of such services will be very important in the single European market."

Mr Rumble believes the UK lead is as much to do with solving the people problems as with getting the technology right. The leading suppliers are finding out what users

want and designing systems to fit their needs rather than the other way around—it is marketing rather than technology driven.

Leading multinationals like ICI are likely to set the trend when it comes to European expansion. ICI is taking part in a European chemical industry network linking 12 companies. It expects to reduce its £700 million worldwide distribution costs by one per cent through reduced documentation.

Links between competing networks will encourage new users to take part. Two of the largest UK suppliers, Istel and International Network Services, have agreed to a link which will be in place by January.

In addition, an alliance between Europe's 22 public telephone operators on the provision of a European network was signed last month. The company, known as MDNS, will sell network services across Europe with a pilot project next year linking the incompatible public data networks.

It is this incompatibility that will concern the industry for some time. The UK's Simpler Trade Procedures Board (Sitpro) has played a key role in the creation of a standard known as Edifact which it hopes will become a generic trading standard.

The work of Sitpro has been

given a boost with the news it is to join forces with the British Standards Institute (BSI) to work on electronic data interchange (EDI) standards. Sitpro chairman Ray Walker believes the joint operation will make a vital difference. "A year ago there was some doubt about attaining standards but now the way is much clearer."

Mr Walker considers European tax harmonization to be another key issue. "Many countries are unhappy with it, and it is not clear how it will relate to paperless trading."

Legislation will also be a critical factor governing the roll out of satellite-based data networks.

The UK now has six companies licensed to provide closed user group data services via satellite in addition to British Telecom and Mercury. PA's David Rumble believes that this will add to the range of services available. "It's a good form of alternative carriage. I think there's a lot of potential in such services."

Such satellite distribution services will prove particularly useful for transmitting small amounts of data to a large target audience. The six companies will only be allowed to transmit one-way traffic to a closed community of small dish receivers but analysts expect a wide range of new data services to be created.

Where Japan could do another Morris Minor

PERSPECTIVE



By Philip Virgo

There is a weakening of Western dominance of the software scene

Viewed cold-bloodedly, the British software industry now largely comprises the marketing and support arms of successful American packaged software suppliers and consultancies, half a dozen medium sized facilities management and body shopping operations, two or three medium sized suppliers of accounting and payroll software and a large number of small fry, mostly specialising in niche and vertical markets.

It is a market in transition. But from where to where? There is a shake-out—the sickly are going to the wall, the stronger are gobbling up the weaker—though which are take-overs, which reverse take-overs and which tactical or strategic alliances is not always easy to tell.

There is the growth of a wide variety of facilities management operations as users decide they can no longer afford to employ their own technically skilled staff and must rely on external suppliers for training and support as well as for systems development and maintenance.

There has also been a weakening of IBM's domination of the market so that it must be more competitive on price and performance.

There is a weakening of Western dominance of the software scene. The Japanese software industry may not yet be that strong with regard to applications software or the elegance of its leading edge research, but it has contracted sufficient western basic design expertise to begin to apply its traditional production disciplines to software on an ever larger scale, exploiting that enormous pool of good quality, under-employed Far Eastern, and more especially Indian, technical graduates.

To laugh at Japanese software is like laughing at the Japanese car industry when first it copied the Morris Minor. It re-engineered the vehicle for improved reliability and cheaper production. Then it re-engineered it again for improved performance. And again. And again. And in the course of that evolutionary approach so transformed the product that the result met customer needs far better than the UK replacements.

The Japanese software industry cut its teeth with the progressive re-engineering of IBM operating systems, originally to reproduce, then to bypass patents, now to go

mentality. The contracts are beginning to become cost-competitive and may soon begin to dry up altogether.

Already we have defence contractors sniffing round for civil business. More significantly, their salary scales have ceased to keep pace and many are now content to shed staff. Some of those staff have skills well worth acquiring. Others do not.

Finally, what is the impact of expert systems on the software market? It looks increasingly as though the expert systems approach provides the route out of the current sales plateau.

Not because expert systems are in themselves a major market, but because using them as a front end to more conventional software or information systems is probably the only way to resolve the trade-off between power and ease of use that is blocking enhanced usage of existing products.

To be really effective such systems need to track the level of knowledge and patterns of enquiry of individual users. At this point the weaknesses of the simple standards of the Unix and OS/2 operating systems become apparent.

Both need so many levels of proprietary abilities superimposed that without considerable enhancement neither really meets the requirements of the operating system of the future.

What is required is much more akin to a full-blown mainframe operating system. Moreover the modern micro has enough store, if not yet enough communications channels, to support such a system.

However, we should not dismiss the possibility that the operating system of the year 2000 will be a Japanese version re-engineered and optimised out of all recognition so that it bears as much resemblance to the operating system of today as the latest Datsum does to the Morris Minor.

And perhaps the British software industry will have gone the same way as the UK motor industry—for much the same, combination of complacency about its technical excellence and lack of attention to the market place. The author is director of IT Strategy Services—a consultancy which specialises in technology and strategy appraisal.

The infection that can give you a seriously slipped disc

By Matthew May

Don't share or borrow computer discs from anybody—they could be infected. That seems to be the message from the latest computer virus which came to light in Britain last week.

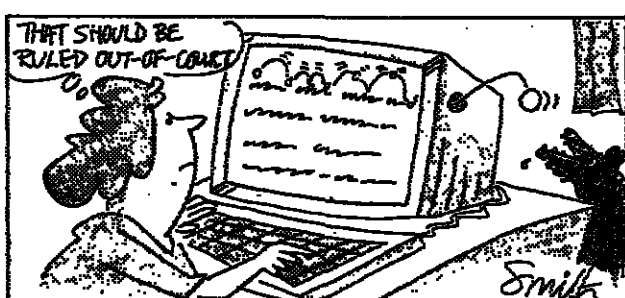
While less serious than the virus which temporarily paralysed more than 6,000 terminals and computers on a US military network earlier this month, it is causing problems for those afflicted and can be expensive to get rid of.

Josephine Bacon is managing director of a London-based Translation Express agency which deals in foreign translations. She reported that for six weeks her company was plagued by a dot like a ping-pong ball appearing on the computer that bounced between edges of the screen and required the system to be shut down, wasting both time and money. It could occur immediately the system was switched on or take several hours to appear.

Dr Alan Solomon, chairman of the PC User Group, says he has been receiving reports of this particular virus, originally believed to have been introduced by Italian students, for nearly six months and is now getting one or two a week.

While this virus is not crippling in its effect, the fear among the computer community is the ease with which such viruses spread and that the next one could be far more serious.

Virus attacks can enter a computer system in two main ways—either through using a computer disc with an infected program or through linking to a computer network. If access to a computer



is available through public telephone lines, then if someone can break password or other security arrangements a virus can be inserted or transferred from other computers.

Dr Doug Eyskens is director general of the Computing Services Association which recently put out a special briefing note on how to limit software risks including virus attacks.

"It is one thing to allow people to access computers by phone lines if they can only read files, but if you let people write the files you must make

sure the security on the system is of a very high level," he said. "It is no use saying saying this country is immune and the best advice is to call in an expert."

Though media interest may make the problem look greater than it is, Dr Eyskens fears that publicity itself will draw others to see if they can do it.

"These things go in waves and with the media drawing attention to it is likely to arouse the interest of would be hackers and we could see a wave of them over the next few months," he predicted.

Diamonds out of the sewers

By Mike Ward

American researchers are growing diamonds from cheap raw materials. Scientists at the US Naval Research Laboratory have developed a method that allows them to grow diamond crystals from either sewer gas or by using a standard oxygen acetylene torch. But these are not the gem stone variety, they are for industrial applications.

The process, called chemical vapour deposition, involves passing a chemical vapour containing carbon at normal pressure over a surface such as silicon and getting the carbon to crystallize on that surface at temperatures of about 780°C. Other current industrial processes for making diamonds require much higher heat and pressure.

Dr James Butler of NRL's chemistry division selected sewer gas because "it is a convenient and inexpensive source of methane". Sewer gas is approximately 65 per cent methane and is usually burned off by treatment plants as waste.

More promising is diamond synthesis using a standard oxygen acetylene torch. Dr Keith Snail of NRL's Optical Sciences division explained: "Using an oxygen acetylene

torch fitted with brazing or cutting nozzles, we can grow diamond crystal films at the rate of one tenth of a millimetre per hour." This is 100 times faster than conventional methods.

Dr Snail and Dr Butler note that modifications to the torch and oxygen/acetylene gas mixture can improve the purity of the diamond deposit, the growth rate as well as film uniformity and adhesion.

The tiny diamonds being made by the scientists could have a variety of industrial applications including abrasives, protective coatings and computer insulators.

"Diamonds are the hardest material known to man with excellent optical transparency and five times better at conducting heat than copper, making them ideal for high speed, high temperature semiconductor devices," said Dr Butler.

"Off-the-shelf diamonds cannot meet many of the desired technological needs because they are difficult to process into devices, but through chemical vapour deposition the shapes and properties necessary for commercial uses can be developed," he added.



Man-made diamonds: now in production 100 times faster than conventional methods

Business Computing in Plain English

Out now, December's issue includes reviews of Compaq & Toshiba's new laptops, a guide to buying a laser printer and a free Agenda demonstration disk—the new information manager from Lotus.

WHAT MICRO?

HARDWARE SOFTWARE PERIPHERALS

THE DEFINITIVE BUSINESS BUYER'S GUIDE

Testing the real sound of music

By Malcolm Smith

Parents without a musical background themselves, but keen to help their children learn to play a musical instrument such as a recorder, usually achieve little more than a headache.

But their feelings of frustration may soon be over. A group of scientists based at University College Cardiff who came up with an idea for linking your child's musical instrument to a computerised tutor, have seen their invention reach the market place.

The technique they have developed could just as easily be used to analyse the sounds produced by factory machinery—such as electric motors—to give an early warning of equipment overload, malfunction or even wear and tear. In industrial applications noting a change in tone could prove to be an important safety aid.

Invented by Dr Andrew Brookes, Patrick Carmody and Dr Michael Greenhough of University College Cardiff Consultants, a consultancy based at the university's industry centre, the computer-linked music tutor is called Music Master.

It works like this. A small microphone attached to the recorder converts the played notes to an electrical signal which is passed via a signal processor to a BBC Micro.

The processor picks out the fundamental frequency for each note, discards the harmonics associated with it, and converts it to a digital pulse related to the pitch of the musical sound. This is then fed to the computer.

The computer screen then shows the budding virtuoso whether he or she has played

the correct note, only moving on when fully satisfied. For more advanced learning, the package comes pre-programmed with increasingly difficult tunes and any deviation from the correctly played notes is displayed on screen. It costs £53.

Chris Pugham of distributors AB European Marketing says that the package is aimed principally at the primary school market because virtually every primary school has a BBC Micro and because recorders are standard music teaching fare.

If the idea was developed for industrial safety applications, the computer would need programming to monitor any change in tone produced by perhaps a number of pieces of machinery, each one linked via its own microphone and signal processor.

With a pre-set range of sound frequencies within which each machine was known to operate normally, any machine temporarily straying outside the limits could be shut down automatically as a safety precaution. Such a program may even be able to give an early warning of increased wear or equipment overload.

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TECHNOLOGY

High-tech in hunt for rabid foxes

By Nick Nuttall

Britain's island geography and strict laws on animal importation and quarantine have played a crucial role in keeping the rabies scourge from our shores.

But pessimists would argue that developments in modern travel and the ingenuity of law-breakers means that the nightmare of an outbreak is just a question of time, especially when the Channel Tunnel becomes a link to what some see as a rabies-infested Europe.

If the virus does breach the defences the population size, concentration, location and movement of one animal in particular in Britain's cities, the red fox, will be crucial to Ministry of Agriculture control, containment and eradication programmes.

But assessing the quantity of each city's foxes, and establishing their movements within a given urban environment, is a costly, complex and time-consuming activity.

Now, however, help is at hand with scientists at the University of Bristol having developed a series of computer models which, they claim, can predict accurately where, and in what numbers,



Urban foxes: targets for high-tech anti-rabies scientists

foxes are moving through any British city. Backed by government grants, Steve Harris, Will Trewella and Graham Smith have been painstakingly tagging and monitoring the animals in Bristol, where the high proportion of owner-occupied semi-detached houses make ideal terrain for foxes.

Broadly, the data fed into their computer fox location and movement model, which can be applied during a rabies outbreak, falls into two parts. By combining spring counts of new-born cubs with a sightings survey of the ani-

mals, the scientists have demonstrated a strong relationship between the characteristics of a particular urban habitat and its density and location of fox families.

Consequently, officials concerned with rabies control need only to feed in data on the socio-economic profile of an urban area — gleaned from the 1981 census — with information on an area's geographical makeup, taken from large-scale maps, to get a highly precise predictor of the quantity and position of foxes within any part of a city.

The second part of the data concerns the way the disease might spread from one area to another and focuses on the dispersal of young and mainly male foxes which leave home in search of new pastures.

The scientists found that most of the movement takes place in the autumn and winter months, and also discovered that there was a clear correlation between the density of an area's fox families and the distances covered by young males leaving home ground.

Details of the zoologists' research and the computer models are now available to all Ministry of Agriculture officials charged with rabies control.

The scientists say that the extraordinary feature of the computer simulation is that you can actually see on the screen where foxes are living within a city while it plots their possible movements.

The Bristol team adds: "The model is much simpler than the only other alternative — doing a 10-year tagging for every British city. We believe our work, giving officials easy access to information on the numbers and distribution of urban foxes, should help them plan more effective strategies aimed at dealing with a rabies outbreak."



Winners of the Technology Press Awards 1988: (back row from left to right) Clive Cookson, Paul Healy, Susan Ablett, presenter Ned Sherrin, Alec Nisbett, Robin Brightwell, Grahame Manuel; (front row) David Tebbutt, Patricia Tehan, Tony Collins, Sian Lewis, Philip Habib

Top award winners are flying high

Features on computer hacking and the use of robot cameras in television studios have won two technology journalists holidays to New York by British Airways Concorde.

The prizes were two of 10 awarded last Wednesday in the UK Technology Press Awards 1988, sponsored jointly by *The Times* and Hewlett-Packard to recognize the talents of technology journalism and to encourage good reporting standards.

The presentation at Claridges Hotel was hosted by Ned Sherrin, and introduced by Michael Hoy, managing editor of *The Times*, and David Baldwin, chairman of Hewlett-Packard UK.

There were more than 300 entries for the awards, the fifth since their inception in 1983, covering newspapers, magazines and radio and television programmes.

The judges, who were assessing the writing, design and photographic standards for the categories, included representatives from each of the major magazine publishers in the field as well as science editors from the BBC and ITN and representatives from the computer industry and the Press Council.

Paul Healy, deputy editor of *Which Computer*, won the features journalist (computing) award and a Concorde holiday for his articles, including one on hacking and how the law applies to computer crime. Another looked at whether you should "do-it-yourself" when choosing a computer system or pay for a consultant.

The runners-up in this category were Paul Abrahams of the *Financial Times* and Andy Lawrence, a freelance.

The other Concorde holiday went to Clive Cookson of the *Financial Times*. He won the features journalist (electronics) category for articles on why unmanned cameras are starting to appear in television studios and a high-tech supermarket system on test in the United States where customers operate the checkouts themselves.

The runners-up were Della Bradshaw of the *Financial Times* and Simon Loe of *Electronics Times*.

An authoritative and clear approach to the topic of computer networking won *Network* magazine the award for journal of the year — for the second time; it won the same award two years ago.



The magazine, edited by Susan Ablett and published by VNU Publications, received a Hewlett-Packard desktop publishing system and a laser printer.

The runners-up were *Mac User* and *Workstation*.

BBC TV won the award for best television or radio programme with an edition of *Horizon* called "Superconductor — the race for the prize". The judges said it took a difficult subject yet was still able to explain in laymen's terms about developments in superconductivity.

The producer was Alec Nisbett; the series' editor is Robin Brightwell. They re-

ceived a prize of a crate of vintage champagne.

The runner-up was *The Techno Show* from BBC Radio Cambridgeshire.

David Tebbutt's columns in *PC Dealer* and *Management in Personal Computing* won him the columnist of the year award with articles on living in an electronic cottage, when computers are not a boon, and the problems of being overwhelmed with information.

Runners-up were Martin Banks, a freelance, Mick McLean of *Electronics Times* and Nick Simms of *IBM Computer Today*.

Patricia Tehan, chief reporter of *Computing*, received the news journalist award (computing). Her winning articles were on an attempted £15 million computer fraud at a Japanese finance house in London, Midland Bank's decision to switch computer suppliers on a multi-million pound contract, and Marks & Spencer's move away from IBM computers.

Runners-up were Tony Collins, a freelance, and Jane Dudman of *Computing*.

Stories about a car phone that could explode and a supercomputer planned for 1990 that will require only the power needed to operate a

lightbulb won Grahame Manuel, assistant editor of *The Engineer*, the award for news journalist (electronics).

The three winners above each won a Hewlett-Packard Vectra computer.

Runners-up were Mick McLean and Chris Partridge of *Electronics Times*.

The best-designed journal award of a crate of vintage champagne went to *Apple Business*, published by International Magazines, and its art director, Sian Lewis.

Runners-up were *Micro Decision* and *Which Computer*.

For the second time, the photographer of the year award went to Philip Habib, for a cover picture for the magazine *DTP — Desktop Publishing*, with the judges praising his ideas and imagination and ability to bring a concept of the subject over quickly. His prize was £1,000 of photographic equipment.

Runner-up was Steve Bicknell of the *New Scientist*.

The choice of technology press personality of the year is based on votes from the entrants for the other categories and was won by Tony Collins, a freelance journalist and former news editor of *Computer News*, which ceased publication in October.

Robot with brains

Japanese researchers have developed what they claim is the world's first experimental model of a fifth-generation computer, the Institution for New Generation Computer Technology said last week.

The institution, set up by the government and the computer industry in 1982, has been conducting a 50 billion yen (£220 million) programme to develop a computer which can

reason from data retrieved from an intelligence base.

The fifth-generation computer can memorize information like the human brain and process different flows of information simultaneously, the group said.

Details of the experimental model will be announced at an international conference on fifth-generation computers in Tokyo from November 28.

NEW TECHNOLOGY

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The successful candidate will have good academic qualifications and substantial experience in information technology, coupled with a sound knowledge of associated quantitative techniques. However, the ability to stimulate interest and inspire action is more important than formal teaching skills. The background could be the appropriate department of a university, polytechnic, business school or another training college, or that of a senior IT line manager or consultant who has the inspirational flair to motivate non-IT management. The initiative is for TSB to build on its existing strength in IT by increasing the use by all disciplines of computer-

based decision support technology.

The Group Management College, situated in a delightful surroundings, is now concentrating on programmes which are strategically designed to play a major role in the career development of management up to the most senior level. It is multi-disciplinary in approach. Tutors are not college-bound and spend time visiting TSB operating companies in a consultancy capacity to follow through the ideas generated on the courses; their own career development could include a move into line management.

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Established as one of the world's most prestigious and fastest growing organisations, our Client is an international leader in networking and communications technology with significant influence in the global industrial and financial markets.

The new technical support teams for Banking Systems will have substantial input in both technology and product configurations for the financial market of the future. We offer a range of unique and challenging opportunities for experienced computing professionals at various levels to contribute to the major expansion plans for the City of London.

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There are a number of opportunities to provide technical leadership and complement the existing group resources with emphasis on Technical Support, Pre/Post Sales Support and Project Management. There will be substantial Consultancy involvement with major banking and financial organisations with a high degree of influence at senior management level. You could be currently employed by either a major computer manufacturer, a large user of information technology or a Software House but with the ambition for career advancement opportunities on a national and international basis.

The excellent benefits package will include a negotiable salary and car depending on experience; outstanding technical training opportunities and substantial scope for personal and career development.

For an initial and confidential discussion, please call Bob Archibold or Tim Hughes on Newbury (0635) 33445 quoting reference W/565/ST or write in strict confidence to:

ARCHIBOLD RAE CONSULTANTS LIMITED, (High Technology Search & Selection),
ARC House, 11-13 The Broadway, Newbury, Berkshire RG13 1AS.
Tel: Newbury (0635) 33445.



HORIZONS

A job that needs caring

Good nursing is a highly professional job demanding dedication, care, and intellect. Yet the nursing profession is in turmoil. Many nurses feel that they are in a low-status, poorly paid job. The Royal College of Nursing says 30,000 nurses leave the profession every year and only 21,000 of the 28,000 completing training each year go into nursing.

Research by the Institute of Manpower Studies has found that numerous vacancies, especially those in intensive care and special-care baby units, are not being filled. There are plenty of people who have qualified as nurses but many of these are staying outside the nursing profession.

The recent regrading of duties has rewarded some nurses for extra responsibilities but has also created anomalies by changing differentials and failing to reward others satisfactorily.

Yet nursing should be an attractive career. It is broad enough to attract school-leavers with few qualifications to become State Enrolled Nurses and at the same time those with good A levels to undertake studies for a degree in nursing, with plenty to offer those who between these two extremes.

The minimum educational requirement for registered nurses is equivalent to five O levels, but there is an entrance test which can be taken by those who have not attained these qualifications.

At present, school-leavers have to decide at the outset whether they want to train to be registered

Nursing is an attractive and personally rewarding career, especially for school-leavers. Neil Harris analyses the many opportunities, and the qualifications needed

for general nursing (RGN), dealing with the mentally ill (RMN), nursing the mentally handicapped (RMNH), or sick children (RSCN).

In each case the training takes three years and involves periods of study interspersed with time spent applying knowledge to practical situations in hospitals. The profession is aiming to achieve a situation where those student nurses working on the wards are continuously being trained instead of being used as "a pair of hands", but it is not at all clear, especially at a time when the number of school-leavers is declining rapidly, where the extra staff and finance will come from to turn this aim into reality.

Student nurses all spend some time gaining experience of maternity and community care. They also work for a time in specialist areas including care of the mentally ill and mentally handicapped, care of the physically ill and those receiving surgical treatment and care of children and the elderly.

Applications for admission to a school of nursing are made through the Nurses Central Clearing House. Those wanting degree courses in nursing are dealt with

through UCAS or PCAS. Graduates in relevant subjects (including physiology, biology, and psychology) can enter nursing through a shorter course lasting just over two years.

Once qualified and having gained some nursing experience, there are many opportunities to develop a career in the different specialist areas. Many hospitals need more nurses to work in the crucial areas of intensive care, surgery and renal dialysis.

Nurses joining as first-level recruits progress their careers through staff nurse and ward sister appointments to higher levels of management. Some nurses study for a diploma in nursing or a degree, usually on a part-time basis, to improve their chances of advancing more rapidly towards more senior grades.

Alternatively, some take courses to become midwives, health visitors or district nurses caring for the sick in their own homes, running clinics and visiting schools. Others gain qualifications in occupational health and work for employers where they deal with accidents, emergencies and the illnesses people experience at work.

The armed forces are an important employer of nurses. A growing number are also employed in private hospitals and clinics.

As professional practice in Britain becomes more integrated with that in other EEC countries, medical qualifications are moving towards common standards. Opportunities to work overseas are plentiful.

How can more people be attracted into this important occupation? Nursing must go on 24 hours a day but more could be done to introduce flexible hours of work and the provision of crèches could attract more mothers back into the profession. Also, nursing has yet done little to attract men into its ranks.



A wider view of nursing: Sister Judy Bibbings of the Royal Marsden, London, is planning to go abroad again

When the world opens to a chosen role in life

Judy Bibbings' career illustrates the choice and diversity open to nurses with the right combination of skills and experience — even if the pay still leaves a lot to be desired, writes *Michael Syrett*.

She started nursing at the age of 22 after being a secretary and an air in France. At 35, she is a senior sister at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London.

Judy qualified as an SRN at Westminster Hospital in 1978 where she was awarded the coveted Gold Medal. She subsequently specialised in cancer (oncology) and intensive-care nursing and went on to work on the

recovery ward at the Marsden, where she took the diploma in Nursing and the City and Guilds Teachers' Course. She is now studying part-time for a BSc in health studies.

Teaching played a growing part in her career, on a part-time basis at the Marsden and full-time for 15 months at the West Thames School of Nursing. Front-line nursing remains her first love, however, and tempted her back to the Marsden last October.

Judy is about to cover for a senior managerial position at her hospital, before going to Bham on a two-year nursing

assignment for Voluntary Services Overseas. There, she will work with four other VSO nurses in the main hospital, managing wards, educating local nurses, and improving local standards.

The VSO assignment will build on Judy's existing knowledge of nursing in the Far East, acquired when she travelled to India last year to study the country's nurse-training systems for a number of professional journals.

"I've always had an interest in what goes on abroad," she says. "You can become very insular in your outlook by staying in the UK, and you can learn a lot by looking

at the problems faced by your counterparts abroad. I am attracted to VSO because it will give me the chance to engage in a genuine two-way exchange of information."

On her return, Judy hopes to specialise in sternal care and complementary therapies such as therapeutic massage — something she already practices.

Despite all the current political controversies, she believes nursing is an attractive career option for school-leavers. "The shortage in nursing will continue," she concludes, "and there will be more opportunities for good people."

01-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-481 1066



ROYAL COLLEGE OF OBSTETRICIANS AND GYNAECOLOGISTS

The College is a professional organisation concerned with standards of care, training, education and examinations in the medical speciality of obstetrics and gynaecology.

SENIOR SECRETARY
From £10,467

A qualified and experienced secretary aged 25+ is required in our Administration Department to work for a number of Committees. A knowledge of word processing would be an advantage although training will be given. Ability to work on your own initiative is essential.

The College staff enjoy excellent working conditions which include flexible working hours, generous annual leave, pleasant offices overlooking Regents Park, free lunches, car parking and interest free season ticket loan.

For details and an application form please write to, or telephone, Mrs A Simmonds, RCOG, 27 Sussex Place, Regent's Park, London NW1 4RG. Telephone: 01 262 5425 ext 223.

USA Paid Training Opportunities for Youth Workers, Social Workers and other related professionals.

The American Youth Work Centre is seeking enthusiastic young adults experienced in Youth Work, Social Work, Drug and Alcohol Abuse Counselling, Mental Health Work, Employment and Training Counselling, Recreation Programming and other related fields, to receive 14-18 months of paid practical training in American Youth Service Agencies, helping troubled adolescents. Placements are available in New England, Arizona, Florida and Pennsylvania. Couples, Special Education Teachers and those interested in outdoor programmes are especially encouraged to apply. Enquiries should be made promptly to:

AYWC Practical Training, 4 Church Farm Court, Aston, Farnville near Hinckley Leicestershire, LE10 3AF. London Belfast and Edinburgh interviews will be scheduled in February 1989.

TOWER HAMLETS HEALTH AUTHORITY
THE LONDON HOSPITAL (WHITECHAPEL)
CHILDREN'S UNIT
APPEAL FUND RAISER
£11,935-£14,369 inc LWA

Applications are invited from enthusiastic people who are interested in working in the

The post of Fund Raiser for The London Hospital's Children's Unit Appeal Fund was created to provide the fund to raise additional resources to fund a new facility for the treatment of children and adolescents at the London Hospital (Whitechapel).

For further information please contact the Personnel Department, The London Hospital (Whitechapel) Whitechapel Road, London, E1 1BB. Tel. 01 252 3740 (09.00-18.00 hours).

Applications from people working in Job Share are welcomed.

Closing Date: 30 December 1988.

Interview: 14th December 1988.

WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

NEW TECHNOLOGY

We are a fast expanding microcomputer training and graphics consultancy with blue-chip clients. We need more bright, dedicated people to join the team:

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Call Sally Tate on 01-602-7161 and send C.V. to Prince Training, 210 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7NL. Fax 01-771-6283.

ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS

Regents Park NW1

£17,000 - £20,000 & Benefits



The Royal College was founded in 1518 and is responsible for post graduate medical education, training and examinations and the development of standards in the profession. We are seeking two senior members of staff to work at their prestigious modern offices in Regents Park.

PERSONNEL & OFFICE MANAGER

The successful applicant, who will be of graduate calibre and preferably IPM qualified, will assume full responsibility for all aspects of recruitment, training, staff relationships and conditions of service. Office Management aspects of the job include responsibility for a significant in-house printing facility, stationery, communications, office equipment and services. There will also be responsibility for 5+ support staff. Candidates should be seeking to move to their first full management position and have 3+ years related experience.

HEAD OF EXAMINATIONS

As a result of internal promotion we are seeking a good administrator of graduate or equivalent status. The job holder will be responsible for 11 staff and will co-ordinate the setting of papers for membership and diploma exams; organise appointment of examiners; arrange exams throughout the UK and overseas; check candidates' qualifications. Proven administrative ability in a busy environment, excellent interpersonal skills and an interest in academic/medical matters will be important in this role.

Should either of these interesting appointments appeal to you then please send a C.V. in strictest confidence, giving details of current earnings, to Alison Hobbs at MCP Management Consultants. REF: RCP188.



11 John Street, London WC1N 2EB. Tel. no 01-242 3665.

RE-ADVERTISEMENT

BEDFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Chief Executive

£50,000+, subject to performance

Bedfordshire, with its rural/urban mix and its developing multi-cultural community, is one of the fastest growing County Councils in the U.K. and is seeking a Chief Executive to provide a dynamic and innovative lead in its continued commitment towards getting closer to the public and to the provision of high quality and cost effective services.

The Chief Executive will provide positive and effective leadership to the Chief Officers' Management Group and the workforce; initiate and develop policy strategies; and, as the Council's principal advisor, be a vital link between the political and management processes.

The Chief Executive's Office comprises five Divisions—Information Technology, Manpower Services, Policy Planning, Emergency Planning and Press and Public Relations. No specific professional qualifications are prescribed in respect of this post, but applicants must be able to demonstrate a record of successful management at a senior level within a large organisation, preferably within the public sector. Other key requirements will include a keen sense of political awareness and exceptional qualities of leadership, together with first class communications skills.

Application forms and information package are available from the Head of Manpower Services, County Hall, Bedford. Telephone Bedford (0234) 228288. Closing date: 13th December 1988.

The Council is an Equal Opportunity employer and welcomes applications from members of ethnic minority groups, disabled persons and all other sections of the community.



LEGAL

TOWN CLERK'S DEPARTMENT
Chief Solicitor

A key corporate MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE Up to £28,500

(Re-advertisement due to salary increase)

As the major industrial town of the thriving Thames Valley, Slough presents a significant challenge for professionals capable of managing the corporate developments that have resulted from sustained economic and social growth.

As Chief Solicitor, you will act as Legal Advisor to the Town Clerk. As such you will become a prominent figure within our Corporate Management Team.

Suitably qualified, with at least five years' senior level experience, preferably within the Public Sector, you will be well equipped to manage a team of 15.

Managing the Legal functions will involve you in non-commercial and litigious matters, housing, planning enquiries, conveyancing, land charges, various forms of council functions including policy interpretation and advice and contract work, bringing you into contact with Council Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups, etc.

In addition to the salary quoted you will benefit from relocation expenses worth up to £5,500, plus mortgage subsidies, car purchase assistance and professional allowances.

If you feel you're ready to accept a greater challenge telephones Slough 875078 (24-hour answering service) or 875071 for an application form, or write to the Personnel Section, Town Hall, Bath Road, Slough, Berks, SL1 3UL.

Closing date: 12th December 1988.

A commitment towards the Council's Equal Opportunity Policy is essential.

We positively encourage applications from black people, and those from other ethnic minorities, people with disabilities and women where they are under-represented in the workforce.

Job sharers considered.

SLOUGH COUNCIL
Working towards equality

£28 million spent in 50 countries last year.

It shows our commitment to children's welfare. Now you can prove yours.

As Britain's largest international children's organisation, the Save the Children Fund employs over 1,000 people on large and small projects worldwide.

For those with dedication and expertise, we can offer the chance to work overseas on a range of important and challenging projects - with the additional advantage of significant financial support combined with expert professional back-up.

We now have the following vacancies for those who share our commitment towards professionalism and effective teamwork.

PROJECT DIRECTOR, Pakistan

PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR, Refugees (Afghanistan)

DEPUTY FIELD DIRECTORS, Sudan, Ethiopia

In these senior management positions, you will carry significant responsibility for consolidating and building on our reputation for excellence in relief and development activities. This project-based work demands wide-ranging management skills as well as a successful background in international aid agency work.

To work overseas for a highly professional organisation in one of these vital roles contact, for

further details, Barbara Middleton, Overseas

Personnel Manager, Save the Children Fund, Mary

Datchelor House, 17 Grove Lane, London SE5 8RD.

Tel: 01-703 5400.

Save the Children

01-481 1066

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

01-481 1066



ROYAL ULSTER CONSTABULARY

APPOINTMENT OF

CHIEF CONSTABLE

The Police Authority for Northern Ireland invites applications from police officers above Assistant Chief Constable rank, or equivalent, for appointment as Chief Constable of the Royal Ulster Constabulary from 1 June 1989 upon the retirement of the present Chief Constable.

The salary is £52,983 per annum, (at present under review). Official accommodation is available and an official car is provided.

The RUC is the second largest police force in the United Kingdom and provides unique policing challenges. It has a complement of 8,250 and is supported by an RUC Reserve the present strength of which is about 4,700 including 3,000 who are full-time.

The appointment will be subject to a satisfactory medical examination and to the approval of the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland. It is conditioned by the Police Acts and Regulations for the time being in force, and to such other conditions of service as may from time to time be adopted by the Authority.

The Selection Board is likely to be held during February 1989 and it may be decided to interview only those applicants who are considered to be best qualified.

The closing date for the receipt of applications is 22 December 1988.

Further details and application forms, which may be requested by telephone are obtainable from:

THE SECRETARY
Police Authority for Northern Ireland
5th Floor, River House
48 High Street
Belfast BT1 2DR.
Tel. No: Belfast (0232) 230111, Exts 238/301.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

THE NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AUTISM is a lifelong mental handicap affecting some 80,000 people in the UK.

THE SOCIETY, founded by parents in 1962, is a national Charity: it provides information and advisory services to families and professionals, and already runs 10 schools and adult centres giving education, training, day and residential care.

THE NEED is for an Executive Director based at Headquarters, London NW2, to lead the Society into the next phase of its development, in which it aims to play a major role in securing improved provision for autistic people and their families by unifying the autistic movement.

THE PERSON we seek will be over 35, energetic and confident, with proven ability to lead an organisation and manage the challenge of expansion. S/he must be able to inspire staff, win respect from colleagues, professionals and NAS members, and effectively present the Society's concerns to legislators and the media.

THE SALARY is negotiable and likely to be in excess of £27,000. There will be other benefits such as a company car.

For further details and application form please phone Carol Ward-Penny on 01-451 1114 or write to National Autistic Society, 276 Willesden Lane, London NW2 5RB. Please send a stamped addressed envelope and quote ref: TS. Completed application forms to reach us no later than Wednesday 14th December.

The NAS is a registered charity.

THE NATIONAL AUTISTIC SOCIETY
276 Willesden Lane, London NW2 5RB Telephone 01-451 1114

Have you the Administrative and Managerial skills to meet the challenge of this new role in the Chief Executive's multi Professional Department?

Assistant Town Clerk
(Central Services)
Up to £14,973

Our package includes:

- *Leased Car
- *Discretionary Allowance up to £6,000
- *100% removals
- *Medical Screening
- *BUFA
- *Performance Reward

Acting as the Departmental "anchor" you will provide comprehensive administrative support to the whole Department, with the assistance of your team.

You will also have responsibility for managing the Council's accommodation, including security through a period of great change and fulfil the Client role for cleaning of the Buildings.

Your proven management ability and flexible approach will be essential for this new and challenging role, together with a sound knowledge of Local Government administrative and financial procedures.

If you can meet our requirements then contact Caroline Adams, Personnel Officer for an application pack at Gillingham Borough Council, Canterbury Street, Gillingham, Kent ME7 5LA. Tel: (0634) 577177 (direct line 24 hours).

Closing date: 14 December 1988

Ref: 80428

GILL346

Gillingham
Borough Council

USA Paid Training
opportunities in
Mental Retardation/
Mentally
Handicapped Field.

The AYWC is seeking qualified energetic young adults (preferred age 21-30 years old) to receive up to 18 months of paid practical training working with mentally retarded/mentally handicapped adults in programmes located in New England. Couples are encouraged to apply. Enquiries should be made promptly to:

Mr A. Spearman, Central Bureau
AWYC-HS Practical Training
Programme, Seymour Mews House,
Seymour Mews, London. W1H 9PE.

Interviews will be conducted in London and other Cities in February 1989.

BRITISH STUDENTS
SPORTS FEDERATION
SECRETARY

The Federation is in a developmental stage and is seeking to appoint a permanent Secretary who will be responsible for organising domestic championships, British participation in international competition, and the Federation's general administration. Experience of sports administration is necessary and a knowledge of student sport is an advantage.

The appointment initially will be for a two-year period, salary c. £13,500 inclusive of London weighting.

Further details from:

The Honorary Secretary, BSSF,
28 Woburn Square, London,
WC1H 0AD. Tel: 01 580 3618

Applications to be in the form of a CV. Closing date: December 2nd 1988.

FINANCE

Applications are invited for the following senior post in the Department of Computer Services. The Department is responsible for the management of computing control and support of the distributed systems, and for planning and co-ordinating computer development throughout the Polytechnic. The Department is presently organised in five sections: Hardware Support, Systems Support, Teaching Support, User Services and Staff User Education.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF COMPUTER SERVICES - VAC REF A/132/88

PO22/1 218,078-222,222
The Deputy Director will be primarily responsible to the Director for the day to day management of the service and for the co-ordination of contributions from the various sections. Applicants should be well qualified and experienced in the operation of a variety of systems, including mainframe, minicomputer and microcomputer provision. The Deputy Director will have major responsibility for the Hardware and Systems support sections and an operational role in relation to programme testing, documentation, and an advisory role concerned with User Education. Informal enquiries can be made via Dr A. M. Hobbs, Assistant Principal, tel 0742 720911 ext 2251.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, SHEFFIELD CITY POLYTECHNIC, HALLFORD HOUSE, FITZALAN SQUARE, SHEFFIELD S1 2BB, TEL: (0742) 720911 EXT 2251.

CLOSING DATE 5TH DECEMBER.

We are an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Sheffield City Polytechnic

LEGAL

HEAD OF LEGAL SERVICES

- + The Challenge of Commercial Conveyancing
- + The Quality of Life

c. £20,500 plus approx £1,500 essential car user allowance (dependent on engine size)
As a result of internal promotion, we are looking for an experienced and committed solicitor to head the legal services section of this progressive and pro-active authority. The legal section deals with a complete range of legal work including advocacy and provision of legal advice to committees and departments of the Council. In addition to the management of the section, the post holder will be required to handle complex conveyancing including high quality commercial transactions.

The post offers a challenging position for an enthusiastic and energetic solicitor and an excellent opportunity to gain extensive experience at a senior level in local government.

- In addition to the attractive salary, the Council offer:
- flexible working hours and generous leave entitlement
 - temporary housing in appropriate circumstances
 - payment of all removal expenses and costs of storage of furniture, if necessary
 - a contribution towards legal and estate agents' fees up to a maximum of £1,650, plus Stamp Duty to a maximum of £415
 - car loan scheme
 - payment of professional subscriptions.

Carrick District is situated in the heart of Cornwall and extends from the North to the South coasts of the Cornish peninsula; it includes the City of Truro, the town of Falmouth and Penryn and the very attractive Roseland area, which is renowned for its beautiful beaches and gardens.

For an informal discussion ring Gail Newton on Truro (0872) 78131 extension 215. Telephone Truro 40885 (24 hr ansaphone) or write for an application form and job description to - The Chief Personnel Officer, Carrick House, Pylar Street, Truro, TR1 1EB. Quote Post No. 4.

Closing date: 14th December.
Previous applicants need not re-apply.
THIS IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.

CARRICK DISTRICT COUNCIL



Would you like to live and work by the sea in this lovely part of East Sussex?

We can offer lawyers interesting challenges, opportunities to gain varied experience and scope for professional and career development in a busy, friendly office. Hastings is a developing seaside resort and a growing employment centre. A major town centre shopping development is about to take place. You could help Hastings Borough Council achieve its ambitious plans.

SOLICITOR

£14,559-£19,806

required for varied workload including advocacy, attending committees and giving advice. Initial emphasis on environmental health, licensing and housing. Solicitors or barristers considered. Salary and progression according to experience and ability. Newly qualified applicants considered. Local Government experience desirable but not essential.

PRINCIPAL LEGAL ASSISTANT

£13,497-£15,417

Litigation specialist wanted with at least 3 years' senior experience in private practice or the public services. Duties involve conduct of own case load (civil and criminal), some advocacy and supervision of debt collection, routine prosecutions and small claims work.

- We also offer:
- 100% Removal Allowance
 - Up to £3,500 Relocation Allowance
 - Mortgage Assistance Scheme
 - Temporary Housing
 - Pension Scheme
 - Car Lease Scheme

Application forms (returnable by 19th December) and further details from the Town Hall, Queen's Road, Hastings TN34 1QR. (Telephone 0424 722026). If you would like to discuss either post, please ask to speak to David Hopkins, Deputy Borough Secretary. Hastings Borough Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer.

INNER LONDON MAGISTRATES' COURTS
BARRISTERS or SOLICITORS

£17,315-£22,383 p.a. (under review)

The posts: Deputy Chief Clerks in Magistrates' Courts in the Inner London Area as legal advisers with administrative responsibilities.

The applicants: Barristers called to the English Bar or Solicitors admitted in England. Previous experience in Magistrates' Courts while desirable is not essential, but the ability to learn quickly and work under pressure is.

The salary: £17,315 p.a. minimum rising to £22,383 p.a. inclusive. Salary under review for 1989.

The benefits: Varied and interesting workload; promotion prospects to Senior Deputy Chief Clerk and Chief Clerk; pension scheme (main provision non-contributory); season ticket loan; 30 days' leave; assistance towards relocation costs in approved cases.

Application: For further details, and application forms which should be returned by 12 December please write quoting reference DCC/T to:

The Principal Chief Clerk
Inner London Magistrates' Courts Service
Third Floor, North Wing
Bush House, Aldwych WC2E 6PJ.

TECHNICAL

BLOOMSBURY HEALTH AUTHORITY
DIRECTORATE OF FINANCE & SYSTEMS DEVELOPMENT
DISTRICT FINANCIAL
PLANNING MANAGER

£17,800 - £22,350 (inc) (Scale 27)
(depending on experience)

Reporting to the Finance Director, you will be responsible for managing and co-ordinating all financial aspects of the District's planning activity. Bloomsbury is actively pursuing options to replace its existing estate and service facilities with a new purpose built hospital in central London. You will be charged with handling the financial input to this process. Additionally, the post carries responsibility for short and medium term financial projections on routine and ad hoc basis.

The Financial Planning Manager will be expected to work with colleagues at a senior level within the District and to liaise with representatives from a variety of organisations outside Bloomsbury.

You will have management responsibility for his/her own department located in refurbished offices between Euston Station and Camden.

Enquiries to Chris Savory, Finance Director. (Tel 01-380 9511)

Application cards from Judith Friend, Finance Director's Office, 25 Grafton Way, London WC1E 6DA. (01-380 9511).

Closing date: Friday 9th December 1988.

BANKING AND ACCOUNTANCY

TREVOR JAMES
ACCOUNTANCY
OFFSHORE OPPORTUNITIES
IN

BERMUDA

US \$37,000 TAX FREE

Newly or recently qualified ACCA/CICA for Account Executive role in major U.S. Capital Insurance Co. Single status preferred. CLIENT VISITING London 24th/25th NOV. 88.

ISLE OF MAN

£20,000 LOW TAX

Same requirements as above, to manage Accounts department of offshore investment/insurance Co. Call SHARON BROWN LLB, MCI, DIRECTOR, for immediate discussion on 01-628 1727, or as a last resort write to 5 London Wall Buildings, Finsbury Circus, London EC2M 5NT.

You can give the Third World
a lot more than money.

Many people want to help the Third World.

But relatively few can offer the kind of help wanted most: the handing on of skills and professions which lead to self-reliance.

This is the contribution of men and women working for VSO.

If you have the training and experience which answer any of the skill areas listed here (and you're able to accept and fulfil the conditions of VSO work), please complete and return this to: Enquiries Unit, VSO, 317 Putney Bridge Road, London SW15 2PN. Tel. 01-780 1331.

Conditions of work. • Pay based on local rates • Rent-free accommodation • National Insurance and medical insurance • Equipment and re-equipment grants • Language training provided where necessary • Return flight paid • Posts (always approved by our field staff) are for a minimum of 2 years • Applicants should be without dependants • Many employers will grant leave of absence.

I'm interested.

I have the following training/experience:

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 - Small Business Advisers ☐
 - Architects ☐
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 - Potters ☐
 - Banking ☐
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- Health**
- Doctors ☐
 - Nurses ☐
 - Midwives ☐
 - Physiotherapists ☐
 - Speech Therapists ☐
 - Occupational Therapists ☐
 - Pharmacists ☐

- Natural Resources**
- Agriculturalists ☐
 - Livestock specialists ☐
 - Agronomists ☐
 - Fisheries-Marine ☐
 - Fresh water ☐
 - Foresters ☐
 - Horticulturists ☐
 - Marine Biologists ☐
 - Water Ecologists ☐
 - Agricultural scientists ☐

- Technical**
- Builders ☐
 - Plumbers ☐
 - Engineers ☐
 - Mechanics ☐
 - Technical Teachers ☐
 - Electronic Technicians ☐
 - Electricians ☐
 - Carpenters ☐

- Education**
- English teachers ☐
 - Science teachers ☐
 - Maths teachers ☐
 - Teacher Trainers ☐
 - Teachers of the Blind ☐
 - Teachers of the Deaf ☐
 - Teachers of Special Needs ☐

VSO is

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- Maldives Mauritania
- Nepal Nigeria
- Pakistan
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- Philippines
- Sao Tome St Kitts
- St Vincent
- Sierra Leone
- Solomon Islands
- Sri Lanka Sudan
- Tanzania Thailand
- Tonga Tuvalu
- Uganda Vanuatu
- Zambia Zimbabwe

VSO
Helping the Third World help itself.

29p S.A.E. appreciated.

Charity no. 313757.

NORTH EAST
DERBYSHIRE

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Closing date - 9 December 1988

Interviews will be held on 19th December 1988

DEFENDING JOBS AND SERVICES

LEGAL & FINANCIAL

Edited by Edward Fennell

When the boss gets tough

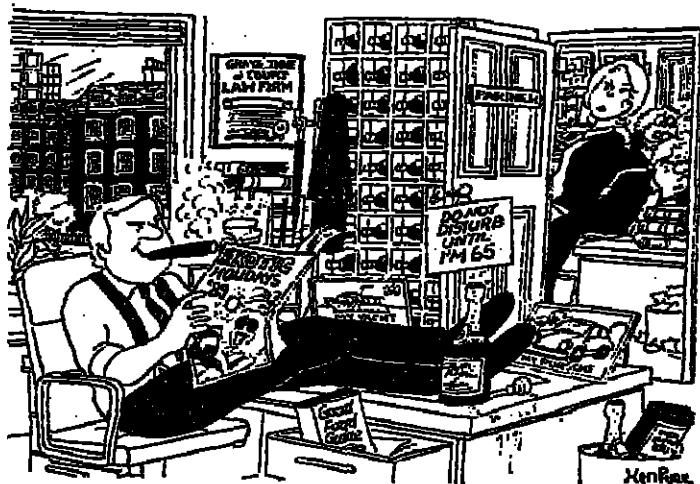
How can a law firm tell if everybody is pulling their weight — and what can be done about it?

From time to time I am fortunate enough to be invited by one or other of the London law firms to have lunch with their managing partner to talk informally about the way their business is going. Thus it was, not so long ago, that I found myself almost choking over my sweetcorn when the managing partner of a very big firm confided in me that he was seriously thinking about the introduction of "fixed term" partnerships.

With steely resolution in his voice, he explained that even in his esteemed and famous firm there were partners who were no longer pulling their weight and that he was almost at a loss about what to do. Such slothful colleagues with a job-for-life attitude were a burden which the firm could well do without.

"The problem," he said, "is that as a young lawyer you work hard to become a partner, but once you have achieved it there is nothing else to aim for. With your name on the paper there is little else to motivate you. From then on it is purely your own self-discipline which counts."

The larger the firm, of course, the easier it is to rest on one's oars — colleagues will drag one along,



apparently unprotesting or unknowing, for quite a long time. In small firms, by contrast, any coasting instantly shows up.

The solution to this dilemma, as my host sadly explained, was that the big law firms would have to introduce "corporate style" management and discipline. They would not like it but if they wanted the benefits of working in a large firm, they would have to accept the constraints as well. The idea of a partnership for life could not be sustained for much longer. Partners would have to accept being managed much more directly — and by the gnat in his eye I could see he meant it.

As it happens, the sting in the tail of this particular story came a couple of days later when I was talking with a management consultant who, by chance, had been doing some work with a smallish law firm. Had he found the partners a merry band of brothers, I inquired.

On the contrary, he replied. When probed about their colleagues, there was a barrage of complaints each about the others. All of them seemed to think they were supporting the firm single-handed while the rest doodled away their time. In some cases the adjectives employed were so offensive that I hesitate to repeat them even to the worldly readers of these pages.

The moral of this is that partnerships are clearly not what they were. As in the universities, the pursuit of effectiveness must take precedence over ideas of gentlemanly tenure. Indeed, the spirit of

co-operative consensus which used to be a law firm's strength is crumbling under the pressure for more active and progressive management.

The accountants have moved on and got it more or less right with their hierarchy of control. But the lawyers must face it all in the years ahead. By the sound of it, there will be some blood-letting once it happens.

Last week I wrote that, generally speaking, no news is 1992 news. Even the estimable and energetic Roger Pannone, who now seems to have more firms to his name than Macdonald's has restaurants, will be permitted only the merest mention on setting up his pan-European legal supergroup Pannone DeBecker. So far there have been no complaints and therefore I hope that no one will take offence if I mention what City solicitors Watson, Farley and Williams have been doing in Athens and Oslo. Let me assure you, this has nothing much to do with That Year.

As anyone who has come across it will admit, Watson Farley and Williams is an interesting firm. From the vigorous self-assurance of the partners to the decor of its office, it stands out from the crowd. Just glancing through The Legal 500 one is struck by the contrast with its neighbours. While Watson Burton Cooper & Jackson, the Newcastle firm on

the opposite page of it, has offices in Blyth and Whitley Bay, Watson Farley and Williams is in Athens and Oslo. Such a peculiar duo of foreign offices, at the north-west and south-east corners of Europe and both opened in the last couple of years is bound to attract attention. It certainly suggests that there is more than one route into Europe than the usual Paris-Brussels advance. The lesson in the choice is, perhaps that you can build on clients and openings virtually anywhere in Europe, and make a success of it, so long as you have the right kind of people and contacts.

The partners in charge of both offices have recently been changed to underline the point that people go out to these exotic locations on temporary attachment rather than as lifelong commitments. Andrew Wettern now runs Athens and Nigel Thomas is in charge of Oslo. Originally the Oslo office opened because the firm already did quite a lot of work for Scandinavian banks and it wanted to take the service closer to the clients.

Alastair Farley now claims that WFW is the only English firm with offices in Oslo. After a slightly uneasy start, when it had to operate under the aegis of a Norwegian law firm, it now has a good relationship with local Norwegian lawyers. The work is growing steadily, although given that the city is the most expensive in Europe you need to be pretty productive to survive.

BRIEFLY

In the right market



Stokes: Better service

potential clients want so that a better service can be provided". Mr Stokes has the invaluable asset of being a lawyer by training (at Freshfields) and a journalist by experience (he is the former editor of *Global Investor*). In any case, with his sleeves rolled up he clearly intends coming Stephen Harwood's action man.

Mr Stokes has recently joined the firm and his aim is to "pinpoint what existing and

A man to keep your secrets



in the wake of the Spycatcher affair, the security services may be in need of one or two people who know how to keep a secret. So let me whisper in their ears the name of Julian Osborne — pictured — who is the director of Imace (the Industrial Members Advisory Committee on Ethics) at the Institute of Chartered Accountants.

Mr Osborne has an admirable aptitude for keeping his lips sealed which is just as well because Imace has been set up to offer help to chartered accountants working in industry or commerce who come under pressure to fiddle the books. A panel of 45 law firms has been established to give (initially) free advice to such accountants. Though Mr Osborne would not reveal the panel's membership I was subsequently contacted discreetly by Mr Stuart Duncan whose firm Stoneham Langton and Passmore is on the list. As it happens Mr Duncan is still waiting to meet his first conscience-racked accountant. Come to think of it I have never met a conscience-racked accountant either. Have you?

Legal Brief is on page 41

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THE LAW

Time to tame the property jungle?



Estate agents must be regulated to stop

'dodgy practices', Walter Merricks writes

Earlier this month, two estate agents who had built up a £2 million chain of offices were jailed for defrauding their vendors by underpricing their properties and buying them back through a property company. Ministers are clearly worried about the honesty and ethics of those in the house transfer market.

Tony Newton, the Trade and Industry minister, last week urged estate agents to adopt a code of practice. But before this has even been drafted, let alone adopted, ministers are again floating proposals for corporate conveyancing which would let estate agents cut out the independent advice that housebuyers now get from their solicitors.

The property market has changed out of all recognition in the past few years with the buy-up of estate agencies by major financial institutions — all intent on grabbing as big a market share as they can. Housebuyers are regarded as punters who can be sold not just houses by the estate agency arm, but more im-

portantly, mortgages and endowment policies. These can hook the housebuyer into a very long-term relationship (possibly 25 years) with a financial conglomerate, with potential to sell him other financial products and services.

What is the public likely to get as a result of the big buy-up of estate agencies? Higher fees, and a poorer but perhaps glossier service. The institutions, in their race to buy estate agency outlets, have paid out massive sums on acquisitions and they have to recover them — the only way they can do this is to push up fees.

The former owners who used to run the businesses are often retained on short contracts, but many have lost interest in customer service now they are lowly employees in a vast impersonal empire. Many are leaving with their golden pay-offs.

The concentration of estate agencies in a few hands is hardly good for competition. The prospects must be that agency fees will continue to rise. Since all the big players are in the same boat, there is little danger of any of them breaking ranks and trying to sell their service on price.

The Financial Services Act (FSA) is the only piece of legislation to bite at all on this jungle, and that gives significant protection to the public only in one limited area — the arrangement of an endowment policy through an independent intermediary. The rules state that any intermediary has to survey the market and give

the customer "best advice". But elsewhere there are virtually no protections for the public.

The estate agency business is virtually entirely unregulated, with no national ethical codes, no professional standards, no tests of fitness or competence. Anyone can set up as an estate agent and dodgy practices in the trade are legion. Some are designed to preserve sole agency when the vendor threatens to bring in another agent. Others try to fix purchasers with mortgages and financial service products.

A good code of practice would sort out conflicts of interest by emphasizing the agent's duty to his

client. But the kind of code the Government would back is unlikely to go to the root of the problem and prohibit estate agents from also having interests in selling financial services to purchasers.

Mortgage lending is equally unregulated and ferocious with over 200 lenders in the market. While the FSA says you must be given "best advice" on the endowment policy that goes with your mortgage, the selling of the loan itself is subject to no rules at all. The building societies (and they alone among the lenders) do have a little known code of practice preventing them "linking" the sale of mortgages to insurance policies.

But those societies which are now tied to life companies must be looking to ditch this restriction.

Banks and mortgage corporations have no such limitations — they can and often do tempt people with a slightly lower interest rate on condition they sign up for the kind of policy which no independent adviser would ever recommend.

When a punter has been sold a house, a mortgage and a policy, there is only one thing the agencies have to worry about. The housebuyer's advice from an independent solicitor who does the conveyancing. Solicitors have a professional duty to look to their client's best interests. Sometimes they even have the impertinence to point out to their clients that they could get a cheaper mortgage or a better policy, or that they will really be over-reaching themselves in trying to buy the house at all.

This can result in the solicitor putting together a better deal for his client and dismantling the salesman's work.

But help may be soon at hand for the institutions and their salesmen. The Government is thinking of allowing them to do the conveyancing in-house. Tied agents, in-house policies and tame conveyancers who won't be troublesome, and who can rubber-stamp all the arrangements. What could be better?

There is a time and a place for everything. The time for regulating financial services happened to be 1988. The time for regulating estate agency and mortgage selling has not come yet, though there are signs that even those in the business recognize it cannot be delayed too long. There may be a time for in-house corporate conveyancing — but after the house transfer market has been cleaned up — surely not before.

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Walter Merricks is assistant secretary general, communications, of the Law Society.

Law Report November 22 1988 Court of Appeal

Conditions for indicting defendant on charges not subject of committal

Regina v Lombardi

Before Lord Lane, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice Simon Brown and Mr Justice Roch (Judgment November 21)

Two conditions had to be satisfied before charges could properly be the subject of an indictment when the defendant was not committed for trial on them, even though they were based on evidence before the justices who committed him for trial on other charges.

The conditions were that (1) the charges must be in substitution for or in addition to counts on which he was committed; and (2) the new counts could lawfully be joined in the same indictment as the one containing the charges on which he was committed.

The Court of Appeal so held when reserved judgment was given allowing an appeal by Raymond Alexander Lombardi, aged 47, of Hill Green, Mitcham, Surrey, convicted at Southwark Crown Court (Mr Assistant Recorder T. Maher and a jury) on five counts charging him with being a bankrupt engaging in trade and obtaining credit. He was sentenced to three months' imprisonment and fined £250.

An appeal against 30 months' imprisonment on conviction on three counts under the Forgery and Counterfeiting Act 1981 in respect of which he had been committed for trial was dismissed on November 15.

Mr Gordon Pringle for the appellant, Mr John Blair-Gould for the Crown.

The LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that on the second indictment the appellant faced the Bankruptcy Act 1914 charges. Before arraignment on those charges counsel moved to quash the indictment. The assistant recorder heard argument on both sides and then ruled against the application. Thereupon the appellant pleaded guilty.

He was committed for trial by Horseferry Road Justices on charges under the 1981 Act in March 1987. In early June 1987 two indictments appeared, one in relation to the counterfeiting offences on which he had been committed for trial and the other, the second indictment in relation to bankruptcy offences, in respect of which there was, so it happened, ample evidence before the justices but no charge and no commitment.

It was submitted unsuccessfully on behalf of the appellant to the assistant recorder at trial that the second indictment did not comply with the provisions of the Administration of Justice (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1933.

Since no bill of indictment was preferred and the appellant was not committed for trial under section 2(2) of the 1933 Act, the prosecution were thrown back on to the proviso to section 2(2): "Where the person charged has been committed for trial, the bill of indictment against him may include, either in substitution for or in addition to counts charging the offence for which he was committed,

any counts founded on facts or evidence disclosed in any examination or deposition taken before a justice in his presence, being counts which may lawfully be joined in the same indictment."

There was no dispute that there was the necessary evidence before the justices which disclosed the commission of the bankruptcy offences.

Mr Pringle submitted that the proviso only allowed the prosecution to add or substitute counts to those in the bill of indictment against the defendant and did not permit the prosecution to prefer another indictment containing charges on which he was not committed for trial, even though they might be amply supported by evidence which was before the justices.

The prosecution did not simply add the bankruptcy counts to the indictment charging the counterfeiting offences because those counts could not lawfully be included in the same indictment under rule 9 of the Indictments Rules: "Charges for any offences may be joined in the same indictment if those charges are founded on the same facts or form or are part of a series of offences of the same or a similar character."

The counterfeiting charges and the bankruptcy offences did not fall within that description.

The prosecution did not add the fresh charges to the original indictment and then apply to sever the charges and thus make two indictments because rule 9 prohibited the first step of that exercise.

That was emphasized by *R v Newland* (The Times December 11, 1987; [1988] QB 402), in that case it was held that the power to sever an indictment within section 5(3) of the Indictments Act 1915 was applicable only to a valid indictment.

Since the indictment in that case charged the appellant with three counts of drugs offences and three counts of assault occasioning actual bodily harm which were not connected with the drugs offences the indictment was invalid and accordingly the power to sever did not exist.

If the appellant's submission were correct one reached the following situation. If the justices had committed for trial on both sets of charges, the prosecution could then legitimately have preferred two separate indictments, on charging the counterfeiting and the other the bankruptcy offences.

Since they did not commit on both — although they might have done — the prosecution could not add the counts because of the terms of rule 9, nor could they prefer a second different indictment because section 2 of the 1933 Act only permitted addition or substitution to the existing indictment and made no provision for the preferring of an altogether fresh indictment.

The only way, it was suggested, that the prosecution could legitimately proceed on the fresh charges was to obtain a voluntary bill or else to charge the defendant and apply to have him committed for trial by the

justices on the fresh charges.

His Lordship said that it was tolerably clear that the present situation was not present to the minds of those who were responsible for the wording of the proviso to section 2(2) of the 1933 Act. The question was whether the words of the proviso were apt to cover the present situation, namely, where the fresh charges were contained in a separate indictment.

Mr Blair-Gould submitted that there was nothing to prevent more than one indictment based on one committal. Therefore the words "the bill of indictment" in the section had to mean any bill of indictment or the bill of indictment which was under consideration at that particular time.

The second indictment here contained charges admittedly based on evidence which was before the justices; those charges, he suggested, were "in substitution" for the charges on which the appellant was committed and they, being all charges under the Bankruptcy Act of a similar nature to each other could lawfully be joined in the same indictment. Therefore the second indictment fell within the terms of the proviso.

His Lordship said that section 2(2) was clearly restrictive. Its primary purpose was to prevent indictments being preferred save after committal or alternative judicial leave. The proviso allowed some relaxation, which was itself restricted by the final words "being counts which

may lawfully be joined in the same indictment".

It would be contrary to the whole tenor of the section to allow the prosecution to prefer indictments in the way suggested without any reference to justices, judge or appellate court.

That was particularly so where, under the present day committal proceedings, there might be much evidence on paper, perhaps only marginally relevant to the charges on which committal was being sought, but providing evidence of the commission of other criminal offences and therefore also providing ample scope for further charges and further potential indictments.

True, the words "bill of indictment" were apt to include more than one bill of indictment. Where justices had committed on more than one

charge, the prosecution were at liberty in the appropriate case to prefer a separate indictment in respect of each.

However, charges in respect of which there was no committal, even though based on evidence which was before the justices, could only be the proper subject of an indictment where two conditions were satisfied.

First, they had to be in "substitution" for or in addition to the counts in respect of which the defendant was committed. The prosecution's contentions involved the necessity of treating that provision as ousting or, even worse, of allowing the prosecution to prefer two indictments to create a notional substitution.

The second condition which had to be satisfied was that the new counts "may lawfully be joined in the same indictment".

That had to mean the same indictment as that containing the charges on which the defendant was committed. That was clear from the whole context and also from the use of the word "include".

The prosecution contentions required that those words should mean simply that no indictment must contain counts which could not lawfully be joined, which scarcely needed stating. If Parliament had intended the law to be as the prosecution claimed it to be, it would have been easy in plain terms to say so.

In short, the words of section 2(2) and its proviso were not apt to entitle the prosecution to prefer the second indictment. The assistant recorder should have accepted the motion to quash that indictment.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Southwark.

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Regina v Morris

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and apprehension of others who might be responsible for the importation.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Stocker, Mr Justice Leggatt and Mr Justice Rose) so held on November 14 when allowing the appeal of Michael Morris against the sentence of eight years' imprisonment imposed on him on June 17, 1988 in Rochester Crown Court (Judge Kee) on his conviction on a plea of guilty to being

knowingly concerned in the fraudulent evasion of the prohibition on the importation of cocaine.

MR JUSTICE LEGGATT said that for importing 488.3gm of the drug, as this appellant did, a sentence of eight years' imprisonment would have been more appropriate if the case had been contested.

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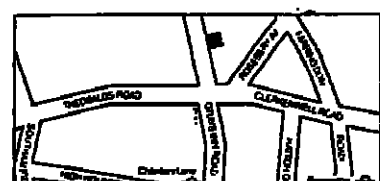
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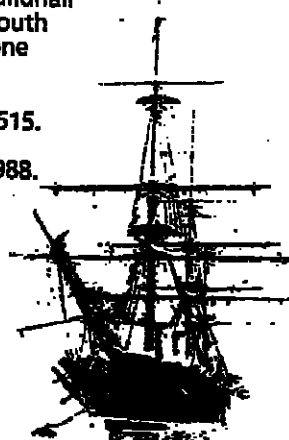
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CRICKET

McDermott stands defiant to delay Australia's demise

From Qamar Ahmed, Brisbane

West Indies continued their run of success of last summer in England by defeating Australia by nine wickets in the first Test at the Gabba yesterday.

That they were able to win with a day and a half to spare was proof of their all-round domination from the first day when Australia, faced with the fire of Marshall, Ambrose and Walsh, were dismissed for 167 in their first innings.

Needing 63 runs to win after bowling Australia out for 289, West Indies reached their target in 81 minutes for the loss of Greenidge, who was caught at the wicket off McDermott for 16.

The winning runs came from an overdrive. At 58, Haynes pushed a ball from McDermott for a single in the covers. Marshall's attempt to run him out resulted in the ball crossing the boundary for five runs.

Contrary to expectations, an innings defeat was averted

New Zealand have to settle for a draw

Panaji (Reuters) — Ian Smith's blistering 69, off only 61 balls, was the highlight of the New Zealanders' second innings total of 231 for nine as the three-day match against Tamil Nadu ended in a draw yesterday. Play was called off by mutual consent 30 minutes after tea.

New Zealand, one run ahead at the start of the final day, lost two early wickets and then slipped to 128 for five soon after lunch.

But Smith and Rutherford hit the touring team out of trouble. They plundered 70 for the sixth wicket in only 56 minutes.

NEW ZEALANDERS: First Innings
R H Vance b Subramaniam 8
E J Gray not out 9
A H Jones b Kumar 1
M J Gresham c and b Venkataratnam 108
T E Blain b Subramaniam 42
R Rutherford c Gray b Subramaniam 42
Total (9 wickets) 289
Extras (b 5, nb 12) 18
Total (10 wickets) 288
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-46, 3-103, 4-122, 5-228.
BOWLING: Anur 9-1-39-2; Anur Kumar 9-3-24-0; Subramaniam 24-3-22-3; R Singh 11-2-43-0; Ramani 15-2-55-0; Sivaramakrishnan 7-4-29-0.

Second Innings
R H Vance b Subramaniam 32
E J Gray b Kumar 1
A H Jones b Kumar 1
M J Gresham c and b Venkataratnam 53
K R Rutherford b Kumar 42
T E Blain c Sub b Subramaniam 59
R Rutherford c Sub b Subramaniam 59
Total (9 wickets) 231
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-22, 2-36, 3-89, 4-127, 5-128, 6-204, 7-223, 8-226, 9-229.
BOWLING: Anur 6-0-22-0; Kumar 18-3-49-4; Subramaniam 32-5-53-3; R Singh 9-3-22-0; Venkataratnam 13-2-30-1; Sivaramakrishnan 5-0-5-0.

TAMIL NADU: First Innings
B Anur c Rutherford b Sheddin 5
V Chandrasekhar c Sheddin 41
N Gautam c Rutherford b Bracewell 23
R Pelling c Rutherford b Bracewell 71
Krupal Singh c Gray b Kuggeleijn 32
Rajin Singh c Bracewell b Gray 38
Total (7 wickets) 289
Extras (b 5, nb 12) 18
Total (10 wickets) 288
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-20, 2-46, 3-103, 4-122, 5-228.
BOWLING: Anur 9-1-39-2; Anur Kumar 9-3-24-0; Subramaniam 24-3-22-3; R Singh 11-2-43-0; Ramani 15-2-55-0; Sivaramakrishnan 7-4-29-0.

Second Innings
C G Greenidge c Healy b McDermott 16
D L Haynes not out 30
R B Richardson not out 30
Extras (b 4, w 3, nb 10) 10
Total (1 wicket) 63
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-16, 3-35, 4-65, 5-157, 6-199, 7-212, 8-212, 9-270.
BOWLING: Marshall 26-2-92-4; Ambrose 28-1-52-3; Walsh 19-3-41-3; Richards 11-4-26-0; Hooper 4-0-23-0.

WEST INDIES: First Innings 384 (C G Greenidge 80, R B Richardson 81, V A Richards 68).
Second Innings
C G Greenidge c Healy b McDermott 16
D L Haynes not out 30
R B Richardson not out 30
Extras (b 4, w 3, nb 10) 10
Total (1 wicket) 63
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-16, 3-35, 4-65, 5-157, 6-199, 7-212, 8-212, 9-270.
BOWLING: Marshall 26-2-92-4; Ambrose 28-1-52-3; Walsh 19-3-41-3; Richards 11-4-26-0; Hooper 4-0-23-0.

REMAINING MATCHES: second Test: Perth, December 2 to 5; third Test: Melbourne, December 24 to 27; fourth Test: Sydney, December 28 to 30; fifth Test: Adelaide, February 3 to 7.

Richards, making a desperate attempt to catch Matthews off a top edge, landed heavily on his already injured right ankle. He hobbled in pain but stayed on until Walsh provided the breakthrough by having Matthews caught at cover for 32. But it was not before Matthews had hit him for three fours in his first over.

Richards limped off the field when the wicket fell but McDermott, who finished unbeaten with 32, including four fours, further frustrated West Indies. He delayed the end of Australia's innings until five minutes before lunch, when May was caught in the gully off Ambrose.

Ambrose was judged the man of the match for his six-wicket haul but Richards was the happiest man in the team. "I was looking forward to a century in my 100th Test match which was not to be, but winning in my 100th Test is enough compensation," he said.

His injury is not as serious as he thought. "It will be all right, but I may have to put up with it all through the tour," he said.

Australia: First Innings 167 (C A Walsh 4 for 62).

Second Innings
D C Boon c Dujon b Marshall 12
C R Marsh b Walsh 2
M J R Veletta c Hooper b Walsh 10
S R Waugh c Haynes b Marshall 90
G M Wood b Walsh 0
Total (9 wickets) 167
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-16, 3-35, 4-65, 5-157, 6-199, 7-212, 8-212, 9-270.
BOWLING: Marshall 26-2-92-4; Ambrose 28-1-52-3; Walsh 19-3-41-3; Richards 11-4-26-0; Hooper 4-0-23-0.

Victory lifts the cloud over Sabatini's resolve

From Barry Wood, New York

Gabriela Sabatini's 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 victory over Pam Shriver in the final of the Virginia Slims Championships at the weekend not only brought her the most important win of her career, but lifted her above Chris Evert to No. 3 on the computer rankings.

The Argentinian, aged 19, finally came of age in a tournament that featured the world's top 16 players, and her commanding performance went a long way to silencing those who claim that much of her appeal lies not in her tennis but in her looks.

Indeed, Shriver believes Sabatini not only has a great deal to offer, but that her game has more depth than that of her closest rival, Steffi Graf. "She can serve extremely well, and she does have a few more dimensions than Graf. She's got the topspin, and she uses her serve and volley more," Shriver said.

"I think her coach has been working on her fitness. She's stronger than when I played her earlier this year, and she's certainly serving a lot harder. Every time I see her, her shoulders are about three inches wider! I was still growing too at her age, but enough," she said.

Sabatini claimed that the belief she held in herself throughout the entire week — during which she did not concede a set — went a long way towards her success. "Mentally I was very strong. That was the key I think. I was playing so confidently and trusted myself," she said. "It was the best possible way to finish the year."

"Next year can be even better and my next step is to reach No. 2. Of course my goal is to be No. 1, but I'm in no hurry."

TENNIS



Victory salute: Sabatini celebrates her triumph over Shriver

Victory lifts the cloud over Sabatini's resolve

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A youthful addition to British Cup squad

Clare Wood, the Rushington player, will make her debut for Britain in the Federation Cup, which is being staged in Melbourne from December 5 to 11.

Wood, aged 20, joins British stalwarts, Jo Durie (Bristol), and Sara Gomer (Torquay), in the three-strong squad.

In naming the team, Sue Mearns, the national women's team manager, said: "I am confident this team will work well together with Jo's experience, Clare's determination, and Sara's current form."

Earlier this month, Gomer narrowly failed to defeat the American world No. 12, Lori McNeil, in the Wightman Cup match, and has since beaten the Soviet player, Lella Meskhi, and the West German, Isabel Cuetio, who are both ranked well above her in the European women's team championships.

Mearns adds: "Clare well deserves to be included in the team after fine performances both at the Brighton tournament and at the Wightman Cup."

Wood wins her Federation Cup place at the expense of Monique Javer, the Californian-born player, who was given the No. 3 singles spot in the Wightman Cup match in preference to the young Sussex girl.

But Wood, having been selected only for the doubles against the Americans at the Albert Hall, came in for a single when Gomer withdrew on the final day because of injury.

The British trio, who are all competing in the Prudential national championships at Queen's Club, London, this week, will leave next Tuesday.

They will be hoping to at least equal last year's performance when Durie and Gomer, together with Anna Hobbs, at present out of the game through injury, reached the quarter-final stage.

Touch returns for McEnroe

Detroit (AP) — John McEnroe added his second title in eight days when he beat Aaron Krickstein 7-5, 6-2 in the final of the Little Caesars tournament.

McEnroe, who still has a long way to go if he is to lift the Nabisco Masters title, starting on Sunday, in his hometown of New York.

McEnroe showed much of the touch of his days of dominance when he took Krickstein's serve six times with a series of drop shots. But he said: "It's difficult to return to the top. I'm hitting the ball well but I have some little injuries and need a rest before the Masters."

"What I really need to do is take some time off."

SWIMMING

Woodcock's time provides a clue for the selectors

By Steven Downes

The TSB Winter Championships, which finished in Plymouth on Sunday, was a meeting in need of a role. As the five days of events passed before them, the British selectors saw little to persuade them to call up many new internationals for the European Cup, to be contested in Edinburgh in three weeks' time.

The selectors can choose the Cup team on the basis of the form shown in Seoul two months ago, or from the results of the Grand Prix meeting in Cumbria. Little wonder, then, that the selectors had so little to enthuse over in Plymouth.

Yet those who were absent missed an important opportunity to experience a new competition schedule which will dominate the next two years. With the Commonwealth Games in Auckland in January 1990, the 1989 Winter Championships will go long course and serve as trials, a pattern to be repeated in November, 1990, when the same meeting will be used to select the team for the World Championships in Perth in January 1991. Plymouth was the chance to rehearse the change to the Antipodean season.

Among those who took that opportunity were Grant Robins and Duncan Rolley, both triple title-winners, and Madeleine Scarborough, who won both butterfly titles and the 200 metres freestyle in a busy few days. Their names, along with Nick Gillingham, Erik Leishman and Mike Fiddens should figure prominently in the European Cup squad when it is announced on Thursday.

Some of those named will also be included in the party for the first meetings of the World Cup in Toronto and Indianapolis next month and in Perth in the New Year, when some Britons will then be invited to stay on for warm-weather training.

It is important that this second opportunity to adjust the balance of the competitive seasons is taken by our leading competitors, and that some way is found to offer similar experience to Scarborough, Caroline Woodcock and Joanne Deakin. Scarborough is a PE teacher and therefore can only take limited time off during school term. Woodcock and Deakin have similar difficulties — both are aged 16, and examination studies need to be done.

In Plymouth, the two girls showed much promise. Deakin pressed Kathy Read all the way in both backstroke finals, while Woodcock took the best performance trophy for her time of 26.18sec in the 50 metres freestyle. It was a vast improvement on the Sussex sprinter, and the true significance of the performance is that it was half a second quicker than the time recorded by June Croft in winning the title last year.

BADMINTON

Chinese gain valuable experience for decider

By Richard Eaton

China's triumph in winning all five titles at a successful but curious Lancashire Open Championship, sponsored by Reebok, at Wrea Green, near Preston, on Saturday gave the visitors valuable preparation for the third and deciding match of the series against England at Altrincham last night.

With England fielding their three strongest doubles pairs so far — Martin Dew and Steve Baddeley in the men's, Gill Clark and Sara Sankey in the women's, and Andy Goode and Gillian Gowers in the mixed — the inexperienced Chinese were up against it. But the past few days have added considerably to their experience.

The top-seeded He Guoan was reported to have lost a semi-final to Chen Xing Dong before taking the Lancashire title by winning against Wu Chibing.

Wu's presence caused a surprise because his name did not appear on the draw sheet and most people had assumed that Huang Zhan Zhong was the man ploughing his way to the final.

Not until Chris Rees, the Welsh international drawn to play Huang in singles and doubles, had claimed he was beaten by two people was a heavy inquiry of photographs made and the mystery man identified.

The mistake was allowed to stand, presumably in the interests of international relations. These were more than usually important. After all, the Chinese spent two hours in a Northamptonshire field on Friday after their coach caught fire on the M1. And they have been facing a quirky sequence of events with equanimity.

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US-Soviet pact on drug testing signed

From David Miller
Moscow

The Olympic committees of the Soviet Union and the United States signed an agreement here yesterday evening for mutual cross-testing for drug abuse, twice a year by both parties, for the period of the next Olympiad, until December 1992.

This initiative, first proposed between the two foremost sporting nations at the conclusion of the Olympic Games in Seoul, was drawn up in formal detail by a joint commission headed by Vladimir Gromyko, deputy chairman of the Soviet sports ministry, and Baaron

Pittenger, executive director of the US Olympic Committee.

Also on the joint commission are Edwin Moses, double Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion, and Sergei Bubka, the world, Olympic and European pole vault champion. After the signing of the terms, which have to be rubber-stamped by the full Olympic committee of each country, Moses said: "This will reduce the paranoia between the athletes and ours, the scepticism, especially on our side, which has led to the escalation of abuse. This is a major step forward."

Moses said that he believed the Olympic competitors of America would welcome the

cross-testing and would collaborate, irrespective of any civil rights objections which have been mooted. "I think our athletes will view this situation, of being an Olympic competitor, as being a responsibility more than being a privilege and will be pleased to be involved," he said.

Earlier in the day, at the second world conference of sports ministers, organized by UNESCO, Marat Gramov, the Soviet Minister of Sport and a member of the International Olympic Committee, had stated that it was essential for drug testing to be operated during the periods of training rather than competition. He has advocated the in-

stitution of a permanent IOC medical commission that should have unobstructed entry at any time of year to any Olympic nation, to test any athlete. He has even gone so far as to say, during the recent conference in Budapest of sports ministers from socialist countries, that the Soviet Union would be prepared to give multiple visas to such an IOC commission in order to facilitate instantaneous visits for the purpose of random testing.

This substantiates the unexpected, yet welcome, attitude of the Soviet Union during the past 12 months to tackle the most critical threat to the credibility of the Olym-

pic Games. When Ben Johnson was disqualified in Seoul, Gramov commented: "This is something which affects us all and needs international agreement for any solution."

While the Soviet initiative may be seen as a reflection of perestroika, it must be supposed that it is motivated by objectives beyond altruism. The conclusion must be that the Soviet Union supposes that it may be on the losing side in the rise in drugs cheating, for all its 55 gold medals in Seoul.

Gromyko said that the abuse within the Soviet Union had been primarily by those attempting to boost their chances of selection for inter-

national teams more than by those already in the international stream. Yet if drugs are available to junior Soviet athletes, it must stand to reason that they are accessible to all.

Pittenger, who thinks that approval by the US Olympic Committee executive board in February will be a formality, is confident that the joint commission will prove effective. The basic principles and mechanics for putting cross-testing into operation were set down yesterday, though he admitted that clarification on some detail would still be required.

Details of the project will be published in the Soviet Press,

Gromyko stated, because the Soviets believe that it was the basic wish of all sportsmen to be competing equally with all others; an echo of the opinion of Moses that fear of the opposition may be as much a motivation as greed for success.

Pittenger said that there had been no refusal on any point by either side and that the coming together of the leading sporting powers of East and West would reinforce a worldwide effort to eliminate an evil. He agreed that both parties would need the co-operation of their respective government foreign departments to facilitate visa relaxation.

END COLUMN

Racing needs ordered revenue

By Graham Rock

There is a science known as chaos, which seeks to find order in the disorder of the universe. It might make a fruitful field of study for the Home Secretary before he arbitrates between the Levy Board and the Bookmakers' Committee and decides how much revenue racing should receive from the betting industry.

The Levy Board wants the rate of 0.88 per cent of betting turnover to be maintained, while the bookmakers have ordered 0.82 per cent, a difference of £2.3 million a year.

The Levy Board argues that racing's urgent priorities, which cannot all be funded, immediately, need an increasing amount of money. They disburse the money as equitably as they can without satisfying all the industry's requirements.

The bookmakers asked if racing's needs can be quantified more tangibly, and they commissioned an independent survey from the National Economic Research Association (NERA) to assess the position.

The credibility of the exercise was dented when the report discussed the impact of Satellite Information Services (SIS), the company which provides live on-screen racing to betting shops.

When SIS bid for the contract, the thrust of their argument was that the copyright fees of £25 million over five years would represent new money for the sport. The racecourses opted for the fast buck and chose SIS, but the NERA report includes SIS revenues when calculating bookmakers' contributions to racing.

Industry's finance is in ferment

Estimating bookmakers' profit would leave any Chancellor of the Exchequer floundering, but a figure close to £100 million next year, before Corporation Tax but after Levy payments, would not be beyond belief. The Levy Board is asking for £34 million, or about one-quarter of the gross profit.

Football benefits from gambling, notably pools and spot-the-ball competitions. For the last full year, the English and Scottish Leagues received £28.5 million from a pools turnover of £661 million, 24 per cent of gross receipts after betting duty of 42½ per cent. The sport as a whole benefited by a further £9 million from spot-the-ball, from £42 million staked.

Racing's finances are in ferment, and the increase in turnover generated by SIS cannot be calculated until the whole country is networked by Spring next year.

SIS, efficiently managed, should be generating profits of between £40 million and £50 million in five years' time, and would be ripe for flotation. In the scramble for shares, racing's 10 per cent holding would be squeezed to a pittance as the bookmakers tightened their grip.

Marking time for uncertain future

One statistic from the NERA report is interesting. Betting shops with a turnover of less than £6,000 a week show a 1.3 per cent net profit, while those with a turnover in excess of £15,000 return 6.5 per cent.

Rationalization has brought benefits to other areas of commerce, and perhaps the plethora of high street betting shops will give way to large, cost-effective betting centres. The world's largest betting shop, at Korakuen, Tokyo, accommodates 100,000 punters on a busy day.

All the indications are that the Tote will be privatised, and, with so much uncertainty, the Home Secretary will be best advised to mark time, allowing racing to maintain its ratio of the spoils until the future is clarified.

Sir Ian Trethowan, chairman of the Levy Board, suggested that some of racing's administrators believe that 2.88 per cent of turnover, rather than 0.88 per cent, would be an appropriate level of revenue. But the aspiration shows a sad ignorance of the potential of the present system: such a rate would remove all the bookmakers' profits.

Even so, the notion could be timely. Lord Newall, chairman of the British Greyhound Racing Board, will launch on Thursday a proposal to give Britain an off-course Tote monopoly similar to the successful Australian system, which would produce dramatically higher revenues for racing.

League chairmen pick Dunnett to lead resistance

By Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent

The chairmen of the Football League have chosen a former Labour member of Parliament to be their champion in the match against the Government. Jack Dunnett, yesterday re-elected as the president, will act as the head of the resistance movement in opposition to the membership-card scheme.

Within a few minutes of his appointment, Dunnett opened his public campaign. He described as "silly and ridiculous" the proposal which is to order all League clubs to admit only spectators who are in possession of a membership card. Yet he will seek amendments to the idea rather than its withdrawal.

Dunnett revealed that he decided to stand as a candidate only 24 hours before the deadline. He was provoked into doing so principally "after reading the Government's White Paper on the scheme. I could see that it was silly and needed to be altered".

The chairmen were given a

choice either of retreating into the past (Dunnett had filled the post from 1981 to 1986) or of stepping into an uncertain future. Gordon McKeag, of Newcastle United, is a comparative novice in a game which is increasingly entangled with politics.

Dunnett won by a narrow margin. Of the 62 votes that were available, he collected 31 and McKeag 28. One chairman spoiled his paper and another abstained. Collectively, they have reduced the threat of a breakthrough posed by the first division's strongest clubs.

Two of their representatives — Philip Carter, of Everton, and David Dein, of Arsenal — were removed from the committee for the parts they played in the television deals during the summer. It was felt that they had favoured the interests of a few clubs instead of all 92.

Aged 66, and a director of Notts County, of the third division, Dunnett is significantly qualified for the role. A law graduate of Downing College, Cambridge, he won Not-

tingham East for Labour on six occasions and he means to take advantage of his acquaintances in high places.

He concedes that the chances of blocking the Government's bill are "nil" because the Prime Minister wants it. It is no good expecting a revolt involving 69 Tories but I will want to want to instigate meetings with the Minister for Sport, Colin Moynihan.

Dunnett will look for ways in which to "soften so many bad parts of the scheme. It is very hard and fast but it is ridiculous when you consider the statistic that there has been an average of three arrests per club per season over the last two years".

He intends to carry such arguments into the forthcoming debate before it enters Parliament in the spring. "I assumed that there would be some softening but that has not happened. It is now crucial that we meet the representatives of all parties to sort out the flaws in it".

He added that the League's view on the specific matter is firm but flexible. "We will co-operate with the Government if they want a 100 per cent membership scheme but I will be working full blast with my own contacts in Parliament to see what measures we can change".

The contest promises to be prolonged. Moynihan climbed deeper into his entrenched position after attending Saturday's fixture between Millwall and McKeag's club. At The Den, the Minister was offered a close glimpse of boogalans in action.

Two windows and the door of the room into which he had been invited were smashed by Newcastle supporters as they were ushered out of the ground. Dunnett is otherwise committed to attacking UEFA's European ban on English clubs and defending the present League structure.



Sheer relief: Ian Alexander, the Bristol Rovers defender, thanks Roy Dolling, the club's physiotherapist, for saving his life

Club review doctor's contract

By Louise Taylor

Bristol Rovers are "reviewing the contract" of the doctor who arrived too late for Sunday's FA Cup first round tie against Fisher Athletic to assist Ian Alexander, the Rovers defender who nearly died after a collision.

Dr Ed Lavin, a Bristol general practitioner who has been contracted to the third division club since 1984, arrived at Twerton Park shortly before half-time. Football Association rules require a qualified medical practitioner to attend all FA Cup matches from the first round proper onwards.

"We are awaiting an explanation from Bristol Rovers. Depending on the circumstances, we may or may

not decide to take action against the club," an FA spokesman said yesterday.

Denis Dunford, the Rovers chairman, said: "In future I will insist that the club doctor reports to an official at least 20 minutes before kick-off. We shall review Dr Lavin's contract. He was very late on Sunday and I have spoken to him at length about it."

"The board have conferred about the situation and I shall be writing to Dr Lavin telling him how upset we are, but I don't think we will be making any definite decisions about his future with us just yet."

In an interview with HTV television news yesterday, Dr Lavin said: "It's very difficult to put how I feel into strong enough terms. I was very upset — I took the incident

extremely seriously. I wish I had been there." He did not wish to discuss why he had been late.

Alexander's life was saved by Roy Dolling, the club physiotherapist, and Gerry Francis, the manager, after Steve Yates, a colleague, collided with Alexander and left him unconscious when he swallowed a dental plate with two false teeth. Dolling cleared Alexander's throat. He said: "He couldn't breathe and I knew I only had about four minutes to save him. I reckon we only cleared his throat with about a minute to spare."

After his release from a Bath hospital yesterday Alexander said: "I don't remember anything about it. The last thing I recall before waking up

in the ambulance is going out for the warm-up."

He is determined to play as soon as possible. "I have a headache, I feel groggy and I need to lie down but the hospital have said I can start training and possibly play again next week."

"I definitely want to play again and, psychologically, it will be better to go back sooner than later. There is certainly no way I'll ever go out there with a plate in again though."

A League ruling due to be implemented at the start of the 1990/1991 season will require all clubs to employ a qualified physiotherapist who is either chartered or has at least passed the FA's two-year treatment of injuries course.

Imran quits over tour selection

By Our Sports Staff

The saga of who will captain Pakistan on their forthcoming tour of Australia and New Zealand took a further twist yesterday. An agency report from Lahore said that Imran Khan had withdrawn from the captaincy only six days after it was announced that he had been recalled in place of Javed Miandad.

Pakistan are due to leave for Australia on Sunday, but Imran has rejected the post in a dispute with the selectors over the chosen party.

"I consider it a great honour that Javed Miandad has stepped down from the captaincy in my favour. Unfortunately I find myself incapable of accepting the job unless changes are made in the team," Imran said in a statement after arriving in Lahore from a brief playing trip to India.

"I had asked the chairman of the selection committee not to announce the team before consulting me on my return to Pakistan as I wanted time to work out my strategy for the team combination required."

Imran, who also announced the formation of a Pakistan Test players' association, said the team was announced in his absence on the pretext that the Pakistan cricket board needed time to get visas for the players. Yet he discovered while in India that visas for 24 players had already been obtained by the board. Imran said it was simply an excuse to exclude him from the selection process.

Thomas the innovator to leave Neath

Brian Thomas resigned as team manager of Neath RFC yesterday for business reasons. (Gerald Davies writes). He introduced the concept of a team manager to Welsh rugby and in five years has transformed the fortunes of the club after it had spent 10 years in the doldrums.

Neath have been Welsh champions during this time, as well as being runners-up in the national cup competition. He introduced new and young players to Neath, making the club the forum of many new ideas in Welsh rugby. He started his own business 18 months ago but recent negotiations between him and his former employers, British Steel, did not bring the business he had expected and he has to spend more time away.

Christie's reward

Linford Christie, who won two silver medals at the Olympic Games in Seoul, yesterday received the Panasonic London sports personality of the year award from the Princess Royal.

At an awards ceremony at the Café Royal, London, Britain's Olympic gold medal winning men's hockey team received the team award, while the Olympic rowing champions, Andy Holmes and Steve Redgrave, received a special award.

Fund raiser

Surrey will hold an auction of cricketing memorabilia at the Oval in January in an attempt to raise £200,000 towards the "Save the Oval" appeal.

SPORT IN BRIEF

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New deal

Newport County, relegated from the fourth division to the GM Vauxhall Conference last season, have secured the largest sponsorship outside the Football League. JLA Atlantic Capital, a finance company, has signed a £30,000 deal with the club covering the remainder of the season.

Decision time

Lancashire county cricket club is to decide next month whether to allow women to become full members, a move which would give them access for the first time to the Old Trafford pavilion.

New date

A women's World Cup giant slalom ski race scheduled for Les Menuires in the French Alps next week has been brought forward two days



Christie: Received award

Connors out

New York (AFP) — Jimmy Connors has withdrawn from the \$750,000 Masters tennis tournament, beginning here on November 30, to undergo surgery on his feet. Connors, ranked seventh in the world and sixth in the grand prize standings, has been troubled by lingering pain in his feet for most of 1988.



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